

JOURNAL

Of the Meetings which led to the Institution of a Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA, March 29th, 1784.

In consequence of appointments made by the vestry of Christ Church and St. Peter's, and by the vestry of St. Paul's, Mr. William Pollard, deputy from Christ Church, Mr. John Chaloner, from St. Peter's, Mr. Lambert Wilmer and Plunket Fleeson, Esquire, deputies from St. Paul's, met the clergy of the said churches, viz: the Rev. Dr. White, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, and the Rev. Mr. Blackwell, at the house of the Rev. Dr. White, for the purpose of conferring with them, concerning the formation of a representative body of the Episcopal Church in this State.

The body assembled, after taking into consideration the necessity of speedily adopting measures for the forming of a plan of ecclesiastical government for the Episcopal Church, were of opinion, that a subject of such importance ought to be taken up, if possible, with the general concurrence of the Episcopalians in the United States. They therefore resolved to ask a conference with such members of the Episcopal congregations in the counties of this state, as were then in town; and the clergy present undertook to converse with such persons of the above description, as they could find, and to request their meeting the body, at Christ Church, on Wednesday evening, at 7 o'clock. Adjourned to the same time and place.

CHRIST CHURCH, March 31st, 1784.—The clergy and the two committees assembled, and elected the Rev. Dr. White their chairman. Dr. Clarkson, deputed by the vestry of St. Peter's, and hitherto detained by sickness, joined the committees. The clergy reported, that, agreeably to their promise, they had spoken to several gentlemen, who readily consented to the conference proposed. The meeting continued some time; when it was signified to them, that several gentlemen, who had designed to attend, were detained by the unexpected sitting of the honorable House of Assembly, they being members of that House. The Hon. James Read, Esq., attended, according to desire. After some conversation on the business of this meeting, it was resolved, that a circular letter should be addressed to the wardens and vestrymen of the different episcopal congregations in the state; and that the same should be as follows:

Gentlemen,—The episcopal clergy in this city, together with a committee, appointed by the vestry of Christ Church and St. Peter's, and another committee, appointed by the vestry of St. Paul's Church, in the same city, for the purpose of proposing a plan of ecclesiastical government, being now assembled, are of opinion, that a subject of such importance ought to be taken up, if possible, with the general concurrence of the episcopalians in the United States.

They have therefore resolved, as preparatory to a general consultation, to request the church-wardens and vestrymen of each episcopal congregation in the state, to delegate one or more of their body, to assist at a meeting, to be held in this city, on Monday, the 24th day of May next; and such clergymen as have parochial cure in the said congregations, to attend the meetings; which they hope will contain a full repre-

sentation of the episcopal church in this state. The above resolve, Gentlemen, the first step in their proceedings, they now respectfully and affectionately communicate to you. *Signed, in behalf of the body now assembled,*

W. WHITE, Chairman.

Resolved, That a circular letter be sent to some one gentleman in each of the said congregations; and that copies of the same be left with the chairman, the respective directions to be supplied by him, after due inquiry; and that the letter be as follows, viz:

Sir,—The body herein mentioned, being informed that you are a member of the Episepal Church in —, and always ready to attend to its concerns, take the liberty of requesting you to deliver the enclosed.

Signed, in behalf of the said body,

W. WHITE, Chairman.

Resolved, That the letters addressed to the churches formerly included in the mission of Radnor, be inclosed under cover to the Rev. William Currie, their former pastor, and that the clergy be desired to accompany them with a letter to the said reverend gentleman, requesting his assistance at the proposed meeting.

Resolved, That as the Rev. Joseph Hutchins is the Minister of the churches formerly included in the mission of Lancaster, the circular letter be addressed to him, and not to the church-wardens and vestrymen of the said congregations.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the vestries, under whose appointments these proceedings are made, to cause the same to be read to their respective congregations on Easter Monday, at their annual election of church-wardens and vestrymen. The chairman was empowered to call a meeting at any time previous to Easter. Adjourned.

At the house of the Rev. Dr. White, April 6th, 1784.
The clergy and committees met. The chairman reported, that he had forwarded letters to every church, of which he could receive information; and that there were two small congregations, which were never provided with an incumbent, of which he had not yet been able to ascertain, whether they lie in Chester county, or in the state of Delaware. He was desired to make further inquiry; and, in case they should be found in Chester county, to invite them to the intended meeting.

The foregoing is a true journal of the proceedings of the episeopal clergy, and committees from the vestries of the episcopal churches in Philadelphia, at their different meetings.

Signed, in behalf of the said body,

W. WHITE, Chairman.

P. S. It appearing that the Rev. Mr. Illing was the minister of the episcopal church in Caernarvon and Pequea, and that the Rev. Mr. Mitchel had gathered a congregation at Fort Pitt, the clergy wrote to those gentlemen, inviting them to the meeting, together with delegates from their vestries, the committees of the two vestries being at that time dissolved by the election at Easter.

CHRIST CHURCH, May 24th, 1784.—In consequence of

circular letter, written by the clergy and committees from the vestries of the episcopal churches in this city, and gentlemen assembled, at the aforesaid time and place. Present.—*From Christ Church and St. Peter's, Rev. William White, D. D., Rev. Robert Blackwell, Mr. Matthew Clarkson, Mr. William Pollard, Dr. Clarkson, and Mr. John Chaloner.* *From St. Paul's Church, Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., Mr. Lambert Wilmer, and Plunket Fleeson, Esquire.* *St. James', Bristol, Mr. Christopher Menick.* *Trinity Church, Oxford, Mr. Benjamin Cottman.* *All-Saints, Pempecka, Mr. Benjamin Johnson.* *St. Paul's, Chester, Dr. William Currie and Mr. James Witby.* *From St. David's, Radnor, Richard Willing, Esq.* *From St. Peter's, in the Valley, Mr. John Francis.* *From St. Martin's, Marcus Hook, Mr. Joseph Marshall.* Some other gentlemen being expected, the company adjourned till the next morning, at 10 o'clock.

CHRIST CHURCH, Tuesday, May 25th, 1784.—The gentlemen met, according to adjournment; present also, from *St. James', Lancaster, Rev. Joseph Hutchins and W. Parr, Esq.* *From St. James', Perkioming, Dr. Robert Shannon and Mr. John Bean.* *From St. John's, New London, Mr. John Wade.* *From Huntington Church, York County, Mr. Joseph Folk.* The Rev. Dr. White was chosen chairman, and Mr. William Pollard, clerk. The gentlemen assembled, after some conversation concerning a concurrence with their brethren in the other states, in means for the preservation of their communion, agreed to appoint a committee to consider the matter more maturely, and to report at 3 o'clock, P. M. The committee appointed consisted of the clergy, Dr. Clarkson, Mr. Parr, Mr. Willing, Mr. Fleeson and Dr. Shannon.

Resolved, That each church shall have one vote, whether represented by one or more persons; or whether two or more united congregations be represented by one man, or set of men. Adjourned.

Three o'Clock, P. M.—The committee met. The Hon. James Read, Esq., from St. Mary's church, Reading, and Mr. George Douglass, from St. Gabriel's, Morlatton, in Berks county, joined the meeting.

The committee appointed in the morning reported, as follows :

"That they think it expedient to appoint a standing committee of the episcopal church in this state, consisting of clergy and laity; that the said committee be empowered to correspond and confer with representatives from the episcopal church in the other states, or any of them; and assist in framing an ecclesiastical government; that a constitution of ecclesiastical government, when framed, be reported to the several congregations, through their respective ministers, church-wardens and vestrymen, to be binding on all the congregations consenting to it, as soon as a majority of the congregations shall have consented; that a majority of the committee, or any less number by them appointed, be a quorum; that they be desired to keep minutes of their proceedings; and that they be bound by the following instructions, or fundamental principles:

First. That the Episcopal Church in these states is, and ought to be, independent of all foreign authority, ecclesiastical or civil.

Second. That it hath, and ought to have, in common with all other religious societies, full and exclusive powers to regulate the concerns of its own communion.

Third. That the doctrines of the gospel be maintained, as now professed by the Church of England;

and uniformity of worship continued, as near as may be, to the liturgy of the said church.

Fourth. That the succession of the ministry be agreeable to the usage, which requireth the three orders of bishops, priests, and deacons; that the rights and powers of the same, respectively, be ascertained; and that they be exercised, according to reasonable laws, to be duly made.

Fifth. That to make canons, or laws, there be no other authority, than that of a representative body of the clergy and laity conjointly.

Sixth. That no powers be delegated to a general ecclesiastical government, except such as cannot conveniently be exercised by the clergy and laity, in the respective congregations.

The above report, after having been considered by paragraphs, was adopted; and the committee chosen in consequence thereof, were as follows : The Rev. Dr. White, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Mr. Hutchins, the Rev. Mr. Blackwell; Matthew Clarkson, Plunket Fleeson, Richard Willing, and the Hon. James Read, Esquires; Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, Dr. Robert Shannon, Mr. John Chaloner, and Mr. Benjamin Johnson. Then the meeting of the committee ended.

CHRIST CHURCH, May 26th, 1784.—The standing committee of the Episcopal Church met for the first time; present, Rev. Dr. White, Rev. Mr. Hutchins, Rev. Mr. Blackwell, Mr. Read, Mr. Fleeson, Mr. M. Clarkson, Mr. Chaloner, Dr. Shannon, and Dr. Clarkson. The Rev. Dr. White was elected chairman; Dr. Clarkson was chosen clerk.

Resolved, That the chairman and clerk he, and they are hereby, requested to procure three hundred copies of the minutes, under which the committee act, to be printed immediately.

Resolved, That a minute book be provided for the committee; and that the proceedings which led to their appointment, be copied therein.

The chairman was desired to forward a printed copy of the proceedings of the late meeting, to every congregation of the Episcopal church in the state.—Adjourned.

CHRIST CHURCH, September 1st, 1784.—The committee met, in consequence of notice from the chairman; present, Rev. Dr. White, Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Mr. Blackwell; Mr. Read, Mr. Fleeson, Mr. M. Clarkson, Mr. Willing, Mr. Chaloner.

Resolved, That all the powers of this committee be, and they are hereby, conveyed to such of their members, or a majority of them, as shall be present at a meeting of clergy and others, to be held in the city of New York, on Tuesday, the 5th of October next; these powers to continue during their stay in said city.

Resolved, That the members be directed to request of the aforesaid meeting, that Samuel Powel, Esquire, who will be in New York on the said 5th of October, may be present at their deliberations, that the committee may receive the benefit of his advice.

Resolved, That the same request be made in favor of the Rev. John Campbell, lately settled in this state as a clergyman, should he be present at the said meeting. Adjourned.

NEW YORK, October 6th and 7th, 1784.

The committee assembled, agreeably to the powers vested in them by their appointments and by the vote of the committee at their last meeting in Philadelphia; present, Rev. Dr. White, Rev. Dr. Magaw, Matthew Clarkson, and Richard Willing, Esquires; also, by desire, Samuel Powell and Richard Peters, Esquires. The committee joined in conference and deliberation

with sundry clergymen and others from the Episcopal Church in several states, of which the following was the result :

Journal of a Convention of Clergymen and Lay-deputies of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, held in New York, October 6th and 7th, 1784.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

From Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Rev. Samuel Parker, A. M. Connecticut, Rev. John R. Marshall. *New York,* Rev. Samuel Provoost, A. M., Rev. Abraham Beach, A. M., Rev. Benjamin Moore, A. M., Rev. Joshua Bloomer, A. M., Rev. Leonard Cutting, A. M., Rev. Thomas Moore, Hon. James Duane, Marinus Villet, and John Alsop, Esquires. *New Jersey,* Rev. Uzal Oden, Mr. Samuel Spragg, John De Hart and John Chetwood, Esquires. *Pennsylvania,* Rev. William White, D. D., Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., Rev. Joseph Hutchins, A. M., Matthew Clarkson, Richard Willing, Samuel Powel, and Richard Peters, Esquires. *Delaware,* Rev. Sydenham Thorne, Rev. Charles Wharton, Mr. Robert Clay. *Maryland,* Rev. William Smith, D. D.

N. B. The Rev. Mr. Griffith, from the state of Virginia, was present by permission. The clergy of that state, being restricted by laws yet in force there, were not at liberty to send delegates, or consent to any alterations in the order, government, doctrine, or worship of the church.

The body now assembled recommend to the clergy and congregations of their communion in the states represented as above, and propose to those of the states not represented,—that as soon as they shall have organized or associated themselves in the states, to which they respectively belong, agreeably to such rules as they shall think proper, they unite in a general ecclesiastical constitution, on the following fundamental principles.

1st. That there be a general convention of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America. 2d. That the Episcopal Church in each state send deputies to the convention, consisting of clergy and laity. 3d. That associated congregations in two or more states may send deputies jointly. 4th. That the said church shall maintain the doctrines of the gospel, as now held by the church of England; and shall adhere to the liturgy of the said church, as far as shall be consistent with the American revolution, and the constitutions of the respective states. 5th. That in every state, where there shall be a bishop duly consecrated or settled, he shall be considered as a member of the convention, *ex officio*. 6th. That the clergy and laity, assembled in convention, shall deliberate in one body, but shall vote separately; and the concurrence of both shall be necessary to give validity to every measure. 7th. That the first meeting of the convention shall be at Philadelphia, the Tuesday before the Feast of St. Michael next; to which it is hoped and earnestly desired, that the Episcopal Churches in the several states will send their clerical and lay-deputies, duly instructed and authorized to proceed on the necessary business, herein proposed for their deliberation.

Signed, by order of the Convention,
WILLIAM SMITH, D. D. President.

Adjourned.

PHILADELPHIA, February 7th, 1785.

The committee met at the house of the Rev. Dr. White; present, the Rev. Dr. White, Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Mr. Blackwell, Mr. Read, Mr. M. Clarkson, Mr.

Chaloner, and Dr. Clarkson. After due deliberation, it was

Resolved, That there be sent to every clergymen and congregation of the Episcopal Church in the state, an account of the proceedings of this committee, in concurrence with sundry clergymen and others, at a meeting in the city of New York, on the 6th and 7th days of October last; that it be recommended that the clergy, and deputies from theseveral congregations, assemble in Christ Church, in this city, on Monday, the 23d day of May next, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, in order to organize the Episcopal Church in this state, agreeably to the intentions of the body, assembled in New York, as aforesaid; and that it be recommended to the vestries to declare, at some congregational meeting, the object of the intended meeting in May, and to propose to the congregations, to enable them to send deputies, duly authorized, to the said mceting. Adjourned.

JOURNAL OF THE FIRST CONVENTION.

PHILADELPHIA, May 23d, 1785.

In consequence of a recommendation from sundry of the clergy and laity, assembled at New York, October 6th and 7th, 1784, for organizing and associating the clergy and congregations of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the different states, the following gentlemen met in Christ Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on Monday, May 23d, at 11 o'clock, A. M. The Rev. Dr. William White, rector of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Rev. Dr. Samuel Magaw, rector of St. Paul's, Rev. Robert Blackwell, assistant minister of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia. Rev. Dr. Wm. Smith, rector of All Saints', Pemaapecka, and Trinity Church, Oxford. Rev. Joseph Hutchins, rector of St. James', Lancaster. Rev. John Campbell, rector of York and Huntington churches. Joseph Swift, Esq., deputy from Christ Church. Samuel Powel, Esq., deputy from St. Peter's. Plunket Fleeson, Esq., Mr. John Wood, Mr. Andrew Doz, deputies from St. Paul's. Edward Hand, Esq., deputy from St. James', Lancaster. Mr. John Francis, deputy from St. Peter's, Tredyffryn. Mr. Nicholas Jones, deputy from St. Gabriel's, Morlatton. Mr. Jacob Ashton, deputy from All Saints', Pemaapecka, and Trinity Church, Oxford. Hon. James Read, Esq., deputy from Reading, Berks county. The following gentlemen, viz: Mr. Swift, Mr. Powel, Mr. Fleeson, Mr. Wood, Mr. Doz, Mr. Hand, Mr. Jones, and the Rev. Mr. Campbell, produced their credentials, which were read, and ordered to be recorded; after which the Convention proceeded to the choice of a president and secretary; when the Rev. Dr. White was unanimously chosen president, and Mr. Powel, secretary. Adjourned to 4 o'clock, P. M.

Four o'clock, P. M.—The Convention met.

Resolved, That the President, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Mr. Campbell, Mr. Shippen, and Mr. Hand, be a committec, to prepare an act of association of the clergy and congregations of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania, who shall meet in Convention.

The committee was instructed to regard the following points, as fundamentals for their proceedings, they having been unanimously agreed to by the convention:

First. That the clergy and lay-deputies vote, as two distinct orders.

Second. That a clergymen cannot vote, as the representative of his particular elurch; but that a lay-

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deputy or deputies be sent to represent each congregation.

Third. That each congregation be entitled to a vote; and that where two congregations are united, each congregation shall be entitled to a vote, and shall send a deputy or deputies.

Fourth. That the convention meet annually, on such day as shall be declared in law or rule, to be made by the next convention for that purpose; and that the next meeting shall be held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Monday, the 22d day of May, 1786, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Fifth. That such of the members of the convention, as are met on the day of the annual meeting, shall be a quorum; in which quorum the votes of the majority shall be decisive.

Adjourned till 11 o'clock the next morning.

CURIST CHURCH, May 24th, 1785.—The convention met. Dr. Robert Shannon, deputy from St. James', Perkioming, took his seat in the convention. The committee appointed yesterday, to prepare an act of association of the clergy and congregations of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania, who shall meet in convention, reported that they had made a draught of the same; which being read, and considered by paragraphs, was agreed to, and is as follows :

"Whereas, by the late revolution, the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America is become independent of the ecclesiastical jurisdiction in England; in consequence whereof, it is necessary for the clergy and congregations of the said church to associate themselves, for maintaining uniformity in divine worship, for procuring the powers of ordination, and for establishing and maintaining a system of ecclesiastical government:

"And whereas, at a meeting of sundry clergymen and lay-deputies from sundry congregations of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this state, held in the city of Philadelphia, on the 25th day of May, in the year of our Lord, 1784, there was appointed a committee to confer and correspond with representatives from the church in the other states, for the purpose of constituting an ecclesiastical government, agreeably to certain instructions or fundamental principles:

"And whereas the said committee, being assembled in the city of New York, on the 6th and 7th days of October, in the same year, did concur with clergymen and lay-deputies from sundry states, in proposing a convention from all the states, to be held in the city of Philadelphia, on the Tuesday before the Feast of St. Michael next ensuing, in order to unite in an ecclesiastical constitution, agreeably to certain fundamental principles expressed in the said proposal:

"And whereas the body, which assembled, as aforesaid, in New York, did recommend to the church in the several states, that, previously to the said intended meeting, they should organize, or associate themselves, agreeably to such rules as they shall think proper:

"It is therefore hereby determined and declared by the clergy, who do now, or who hereafter shall, sign this act, and by the congregations, which do now, or which hereafter shall, consent to this act, either by its being ratified by their respective vestries, or by its being signed by their deputies duly authorized, that the said clergy and congregations shall be called and known by the name of The Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania.

"And it is hereby further determined and declared, by the said clergy and congregations, that there shall

be a convention of the said church; which convention shall consist of all the clergy of the same, and of lay-deputies; and that all the acts and proceedings of the said convention shall be considered as the acts and proceedings of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State; provided always, that the same shall be consistent with the fundamental principles agreed on at the two aforesaid meetings, in Philadelphia and New York.

"And it is hereby further determined and declared, by the said clergy and congregations, that each congregation may send to the convention a deputy, or deputies, for each congregation; and no congregation may send a clergymen, as their deputy; and each congregation represented in convention shall have one vote.

"And it is hereby further determined and declared by the said clergy and congregations, that the clergy and lay-deputies in convention shall deliberate in one body, but shall vote as two distinct orders; and that the concurrence of both orders shall be necessary, to give validity to every measure; and such clergymen and lay-deputies as shall, at any time, be duly assembled in convention, shall be a quorum; and on every question, the votes of a majority of those present, of the two orders respectively, shall decide.

"And it is hereby further determined and declared, by the said clergy and congregations, that all such clergymen, as shall hereafter be settled as the ministers of the congregations ratifying this act, shall have the same privileges, and be subject to the same regulations, as the clergy now subscribing the same.

"And it is hereby further determined and declared, by the said clergy and congregations, that the convention shall meet on Monday, the twenty-second day of May, in the year of our Lord 1786, and for ever after, on such annual day, and at such other times, and at such place, as shall be fixed by future rules of the convention.

"And it is hereby further determined and declared, by the said clergy and congregations, that, if the clergy and congregations of any adjoining state or states shall desire to unite with the church in this state, agreeably to the fundamental principles established at the aforesaid meeting in New York, then the convention shall have power to admit the said clergy, and deputies from the congregations of such adjoining state or states, to have the same privileges, and to be subject to the same regulations, as the clergy and congregations in this state."

Adjourned to 7 o'clock, P. M.

Seven o'clock, P. M.—The convention met, and subscribed the above act; which has been since signed by others, not members of that convention.

Resolved, That deputies be sent to the general convention, which is to be held in this city, on the Tuesday preceding the Feast of St. Michael next ensuing; and that the Rev. Drs. White and Magaw, the Rev. Messrs. Blackwell, Hutchins and Campbell, be, and they are hereby appointed, the clerical deputies; and that Richard Peters, Samuel Powel, William Atlee, Jasper Yeates, Stephen Chambers, Edward Hand, Thomas Hartley, John Clark, Archibald M'Grew, Plunket Fleeson, Edward Shippen, and Joseph Swift, Esqs., and Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, and Messrs. Andrew Doz, John Wood, Nicholas Jones, and Edward Duffield, or such of them as can attend, be, and they are hereby appointed, the lay deputies to the said general convention.

Resolved, That the Rev. Drs. White and Magaw,

the Rev. Mr. Blackwell, Mr. Powel, Mr. Swift and Mr. Doz, be, and they, or any three of them, are appointed a committee, to carry on all necessary correspondence, to superintend the printing of the act of association, and to transmit the same to the several congregations in this state; and, in general, to transact all business relative to the concerns of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania. The convention then broke up.

SECOND CONVENTION.

PHILADELPHIA, May 22d, 1786.

Sundry members of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania, assembled in Christ Church; and after some conversation, they adjourned, to meet the next day, at 10 o'clock, that more time might be given for the coming in of other members.

CHRIST CHURCH, May 23d, 1786.—The convention met.

LIST OF MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Rev. William White, D. D., rector, and the Rev. Robert Blackwell, assistant minister of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia. Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., rector of St. Paul's. Rev. Joseph Pilmore, rector of Trinity Church, Oxford, All Saints, Pemaapecka, and St. Thomas', Whitemarsh.

Laiety.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia, Hon. Francis Hopkinson, and Joseph Swift, Esqs. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia, Samuel Powel, Esq., Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, Mr. Tench Coxe. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia, Mr. John Swanwick, Mr. Andrew Doz, Mr. John Wood. From St. Thomas', Whitemarsh, Mr. John B. Gilpin. From St. James', Perkioming, Dr. Shannon.

The convention proceeded to the choice of a president; and the Rev. Dr. White was unanimously elected, and took the chair. They then proceeded to choose a secretary; and the Rev. Dr. Magaw was elected. The convention, previously to their entering upon other business, directed prayers to be read; which was performed by their secretary. The Rev. Mr. Pilmore declared his assent unto, and signed the act of association, as rector of Trinity Church, Oxford, St. Thomas', Whitemarsh, and All Saints', Pemaapecka. The deputies from the congregations before mentioned produced the testimonials of their appointments. *Ordered*, That they be preserved among the records of the convention. A question was moved and seconded: "Whether clergymen, not having parochial cures, can be admitted as members of this convention, consistently with the following clause of the act of association: And it is hereby further determined and declared, by the said clergy and congregations, that there shall be a convention of the said Church; which convention shall consist of all the clergy of the same, and of lay-deputies." A division being called for, as soon as the members were ready for the question, it was determined in the negative. The following rules were then agreed to: *First*, That no person shall speak more than once on any question, without permission obtained of the convention. *Second*, That every motion shall be handed to the president in writing, if so required by any member. *Third*, That when a motion is made for a division on any question, and seconded, then such division shall take place; but not otherwise. *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to consider the Book of Common Prayer proposed by the general con-

vention, and to make report thereon to this convention. Agreed, that the committee shall consist of five persons; and that the following gentlemen shall compose it: Rev. Dr. White, Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Mr. Pilmore, Mr. Swift, and Mr. Swanwick.

Resolved, That the committee make report, previously to the meeting of the general convention.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock the next morning.

CHRIST CHURCH, May 24th, 1786.—The convention met. Mr. Jacob Dutfield, deputy from the church of All Saints, Lower Dublin, signed the act of association in behalf of that congregation, his credentials having been previously read and approved of.

Whereas some doubts have arisen, with regard to the operation of part of the third fundamental article established at Philadelphia, and of the fourth fundamental article, proposed at New York, so far as they require an adherence to the liturgy of the Church of England; which articles are recognized and confirmed by the act of association; it was thereupon, moved and seconded, that it be referred to the Committee on the Book of Common Prayer, to consider, whether it be necessary that a supplement be added to the act of association, and to report such supplement, if necessary, to this convention; and the same was committed accordingly.

Resolved, That Saturday, the 27th inst, be the day for the election of deputies to the general convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. Adjourned till Saturday, 11 o'clock, A. M.

CHRIST CHURCH, May 27th, 1786.

The convention met. After prayers read by the president, the minutes of the last meeting were read.

Resolved, That the order of the day be postponed till one o'clock. The following question was moved, "Whether deputies appointed by any congregation or congregations, to attend this convention, may be allowed to delegate the powers of their appointment to others?" And it was determined in the negative.

The order of the day was then taken up; and accordingly the convention proceeded to elect by ballot deputies, to represent the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State at the next general convention, and the following persons were duly chosen.

Clerical Deputies.—The Rev. Dr. White, Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Mr. Pilmore, Rev. Mr. Blackwell. *Lay-Deputies.*—Hon. Francis Hopkinson, Samuel Powel, Plunket Fleeson, Esqs., Mr. John B. Gilpin. The committee appointed to view and consider the Book of Common Prayer, made their report; and the same, being duly considered, was adopted in the words following, viz: "The convention having examined the Book of Common Prayer, as revised and proposed by the general convention of September and October last, instruct their deputies to the ensuing general convention to propose the following amendments: *First*, That in the morning Prayer, the Nicene Creed be inserted after the Apostles' Creed, with the words, 'Or this,' between them, with a rubric, requiring that the Nicene be used on the following festivals, viz: on Christmas-day, the Epiphany, Easter-day, Ascension-day, Whitsunday, and Trinity Sunday. *Second*, That, in the consecration prayer, in the office of the Holy Sacrament, after the words, 'until his coming again,' and before the words, 'according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,' be inserted the following paragraph, instead of that now used. 'Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe so to bless and sanctify these thy creatures of bread and wine,

that we, receiving them.' *Third*, That, in the communion service, where the Nicene Creed stood, there be a rubric, requiring the use of one of the creeds, as in the morning prayer, when the two services shall not have been used at the same time, or in connection. *Fourth*, That, in all the offices for baptism, the articles of the Apostles' Creed be distinctly repeated, and this question and answer inserted in the baptism of infants :

Q. Wilt thou endeavor, that the child now presented to be baptized, may be instructed in this faith.

A. I will.

Fifth, That, in the burial service, the beginning of the omitted prayer be retained to these words, 'joy and felicity,' with the addition of a thanksgiving to Almighty God, for the good examples of all righteous persons departed, like that in the conclusion of the prayer for Christ's Church militant. *Sixth*, That the first, fifth, and eleventh of the new articles be omitted, and the first, second, fourth, fifth, fourteenth, twenty-second, twenty-sixth, and thirtieth of the old articles be retained. *Seventh*, That the fourth article of the new be entitled 'Of the Creeds'; and the Nicene be recognized therein with the Apostles. *Eighth*, That the ninth of the old articles be retained, as far as the word 'damnation'; and the said word to be changed into 'condemnation.' *Ninth*, That the seventeenth of the old articles be retained, with the following alteration : omit the words, 'to Life,' and these, 'secret to us,' with what follows to the words, 'in due season,' inclusively, inserting instead thereof, 'to admit to the inestimable privileges of the gospel dispensation all those Gentiles, as well as Jews, who should believe in his Son Jesus Christ.' After the word, 'calling,' insert 'of God.' End at these words, 'everlasting felicity.' *Tenth*, That the thirty-fifth article of the old book be retained, so far as it refers to the homilies, as containing godly and wholesome doctrine. *Eleventh*, That, instead of the old thirty-seventh article, there be a new one, declaratory of our allegiance to the civil authority in these states, and the obedience due to the magistrates thereof." Adjourned, to meet at Christ Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the 3d day of October next.

PHILADELPHIA, August 24th, 1786.

Certain circumstances and events, rendering it necessary, that such members of the convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania, as were in this city, and any other members able to attend with convenience, should confer together, and notices having been sent by the secretary for that purpose, the following gentlemen met in the Episcopal academy, at the time above mentioned. Rev. Dr. White, president, Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Mr. Blackwell, Mr. Hopkinson, Mr. Powel, Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, Mr. Doz, Mr. Swanwick, Mr. Swift, and Mr. Tench Coxe. It appearing to be highly expedient that the convention of this church should meet earlier than the time, to which they were adjourned, it was unanimously agreed, that the 14th day of September should be the day of meeting; and that, in the letters of notification to the several churches, the particular object of the meeting should be expressed, viz: The election of a bishop, previous to the meeting of the general convention, on the 10th day of October next.

SECOND SESSION.

CHRIST CHURCH, September 14th, 1786.—In consequence of a circular letter, sent to the several congregations of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this

State, by direction of sundry members of the convention of said church, who had conferred on the subject, a number of the members formerly appointed, and several other gentlemen, lately deputed, met agreeably to the invitation and notice, which had been given. The persons present were the following: *Clergy*.—The Rev. William White, D. D., President, Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., Rev. Joseph Pilmore, Rev. Robert Blackwell. *Laity*.—Hon. Francis Hopkinson, Esquire, Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, Mr. Andrew Doz, Mr. John Swanwick, Mr. John B. Gilpin, Mr. Jacob Duffield. Mr. Jacob Ashton, from Trinity Church, Oxford. Mr. John Swift, St. James's, Bristol. Mr. Isaac Bullock, St. John's, Concord. Mr. Benjamin Marshall, St. Martin's, Marcus-hook. Mr. James Witby, St. Paul's, Chester. Richard Willing, Esquire, St. David's, Radnor. Robert Ralston, Esq., St. Peter's, Chester county. Those gentlemen, who had been lately appointed, presented the testimonials of their respective appointments, which were read, approved of, and ordered to be filed, and kept among the records of the convention. Certain communications and letters from the Archbishops and Bishops of England having been read, and the reasons for calling this convention somewhat earlier than the day, to which they had adjourned, having been duly considered, it was

Resolved, That in the opinion of the convention, there was sufficient cause for their present meeting; and that it is proper and regular.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this convention proceed now to the election of a Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State.

The convention proceeded accordingly to the election of a Bishop, by ballot; and the Rev. William White, D. D., President, was unanimously chosen. Adjourned till three o'clock, P. M.

Three o'clock, P. M..—The convention met. The minutes of the last meeting were read. Mr. John Kerlin, from St. Gabriel's, Morlatton, attended; his letter of delegation was read, and his appointment was approved of.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a committee of correspondence and advice be appointed, to transact all such business, as may require their attention during the recess of this convention, and more especially, in the first instance, to advise with the Bishop-elect, concerning the proper time of embarking for England. Agreed, That the said committee shall consist of three clerical and three lay members; and that the following persons shall compose the same. Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Mr. Blackwell, Rev. Mr. Pilmore, Hon. Francis Hopkinson, Esquire, Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, John Swanwick, Esquire.

On the question, "Whether the deputies, who are to attend the general convention, at their next meeting, shall be instructed,"

Resolved, That they shall go vested with full powers, without any particular instructions.

Resolved farther, That they shall be, and they are hereby fully empowered to join with the other States, in establishing an Ecclesiastical Constitution.

On motion, Agreed, That it is most honorable for the church in general, and perfectly agreeable to the minds of all members present, that a reasonable sum be fixed upon, to defray the necessary expenses of the voyage of the Bishop-elect to and from England.

Resolved, That the sum be two hundred guineas, or three hundred and fifty pounds, currency.

Resolved, That the said sum be apportioned among

the churches severally, to be raised by them, according to the salaries which they pay respectively to their officiating minister or ministers, or the sums which they may be supposed able with convenience to pay.

Resolved, That the contributions, when made by the several churches, (which it is hoped can be accomplished before the end of October) shall be sent to, or paid into the hands of the secretary of this convention, for the purpose before agreed to.

Adjourned to the third day of October, to meet in Philadelphia.

THIRD SESSION.

CHRIST CHURCH, *Tuesday, October 3d, 1786.*—Some of the members of the convention met, agreeably to adjournment, and adjourned again to next Friday.

CHRIST CHURCH, *Friday, October 6th, 1786.*—The convention met,—present, the Rev. Dr. White, President, Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Mr. Blackwell, Hon. Mr. Hopkinson, Mr. Powel, and Mr. Doz. As this adjourned meeting was appointed to take order in any new matter, that might arise in the business of the church, and as no such new matter had arisen, the convention appointed the second Tuesday in May next, for the meeting of the next convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church; desired the secretary to give notice thereof to the several congregations; and then broke up.

JOURNAL OF THE THIRD CONVENTION.

Held at Christ Church, in the City of Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 15th of May, 1787.

Present, the Right Rev. William White, D. D., Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania. Rev. Robert Blackwell, assistant minister of the united Churches of Christ Church and St. Peter's. Hon. Francis Hopkinson, Esquire, deputy from Christ Church, Samuel Powel, Esquire, Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, Mr. Tench Coxes, St. Peter's, Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., Rector of St. Paul's, Mr. Andrew Doz, Mr. George Nelson, deputies from St. Paul's, Philadelphia. Rev. Joseph Pilmore, rector of Trinity Church, &c. &c. Mr. Benjamin Cottman, from Trinity Church, Oxford. Mr. Edward Duffield, from All-Saints, Pemaapecka. Mr. John B. Gilpin and Mr. Christopher Loeser, St. Thomas', Whitemarsh. Mr. Benjamin Marshall, Lower Chichester. John Crosby, jr., Esquire, and Mr. John Worrell, deputies from St. Paul's, Chester. Richard Willing, Esquire, St. David's, Radnor. Robert Ralston, Esquire, St. Peter's, Valley of Chester. Mr. George Bickham, St. John's, Yorktown. Mr. Peter Jones, St. Gabriel's, Berks. Rev. Joseph Hutchins, rector of St. James's, Lancaster. The deputies from the several churches having produced the testimonials of their respective appointments, the same were read, approved of, and ordered to be filed. The Rev. Dr. Magaw was chosen secretary. The committee of correspondence and advice reported, that in the execution of their trust, they had advised the Rev. Dr. White to proceed to England, for the purpose of obtaining consecration; that he had proceeded accordingly; and, while there, had written sundry letters to them on the subject, which they requested might be read; and they were read in order. The convention having attended to the narrative of proceedings, contained in the aforesaid letters, unanimously approved of the Rt. Rev. Bishop White's

conduct, during the whole of this important business in England; and

Resolved, That the thanks of the convention should be given him for his very obliging and satisfactory communications.

The Right Rev. Bishop laid before the convention, the certificate and testimonials of his consecration in the chapel of the palace of Lambeth, in England, on the 4th day of February, 1787, by the most Reverend Archbishop of Canterbury, in the presence of the Most Reverend Archbishop of York, the Right Reverend Bishop of Bath and Wells, and the Right Reverend Bishop of Peterborough. The Bishop also exhibited a further certificate, attested in Doctors' Commons, by R. Jenner, notary public; which certificate was ascertained by an instrument or form of writing, under the signatures of two notaries public, attesting that Robert Jenner, whose name is subscribed to the foregoing act, was, and is, a notary public, and one of the deputy registers of the province of Canterbury, and the officer that he declares himself to be; as also that the words, which express his name, are of his proper hand-writing. On motion of Mr. Coxe, seconded by Mr. Powel, a committee, consisting of the Rev. Mr. Hutchins, the Rev. Mr. Blackwell, Mr. Hopkinson, and Mr. Powel, was appointed, to consider and report the most proper time for holding the annual meeting of this convention; and to consider, farther, of the propriety of appointing a committee, or council, with whom the Bishop may advise, in the discharge of the duties of his office, in the recess of the convention; also the manner of appointing the said committee, or council. Adjourned till 4 o'clock, P. M.

Four o'clock, P. M.—The convention met.

Ordered, That those proceedings of general convention, which have a more immediate relation to the church in this state, form a part of the minutes of the convention. The deputies from the convention of this church to the general convention, which met at Wilmington on the 11th day of October last, laid before the convention an act of the general convention, by which the Nicene Creed is restored; the article of Christ's descent into hell is replaced in the Apostles' Creed; the 10th article of the general constitution is newly modified; and the preface, and the 4th article of religion, in the proposed book, are accommodated to the creeds. The committee, appointed to consider of the most proper time for holding the annual meeting of the convention, reported a resolution, which was adopted, and is as follows:

Resolved, That the convention shall be held annually, on the second Tuesday after Whitsunday, or the Feast of Pentecost.

The same committee reported, that it is proper a council of advice and correspondence be appointed, with whom the Bishop may consult, in the discharge of his office; and that the said council consist of three clerical and three lay members, to be chosen annually, by ballot, by the convention. This report was adopted; and the convention proceeded to elect the members of the council of advice, when the following gentlemen were appointed, viz: The Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Mr. Blackwell, Rev. Mr. Pilmore, Hon. Mr. Hopkinson, Mr. Powel, Mr. Doz. The convention broke up.

JOURNAL OF THE FOURTH CONVENTION.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, *Philadelphia, May 20th, 1788.*
The convention met, the following members present:

The Right Rev. William White, D. D., Bishop. Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., Rector of St. Paul's. Rev. Robert Blackwell, Rev. Joseph Bend, assistant ministers of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia. Rev. Joseph Pilmore, Rector of Trinity Church, &c. &c. Rev. Joseph Hutchins, Rector of St. James's, Lancaster. Rev. Slator Clay, Rector of St. David's, &c. &c. Hon. Francis Hopkinson, Esquire, Mr. Abraham Markoe, deputies from Christ Church, Samuel Powel, Esquire, Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, Mr. Tench Coxe, St. Peter's, Mr. Andrew Doz, Mr. Joseph Turner, Mr. John Wood, St. Paul's, Philadelphia, Mr. Jacob Ashton, Trinity Church, Oxford. Mr. John B. Gilpin, All Saints, Pemapecka. Mr. Christopher Loeser, St. Thomas', Whittemarsh. Mr. Zachariah Derrick, St. Martin's, Marcushook. Dr. Richard Tidmarsh, St. Paul's, Chester. The deputies from the several churches above mentioned produced the testimonials of their respective appointments, which were read and approved of. The convention proceeded to the election of a Secretary, and the Rev. Dr. Magaw was unanimously chosen. Adjourned till 4 o'clock, P. M.

Four o'clock, P. M.—The convention met. It was moved and seconded, that the convention proceed to elect, by ballot, clerical and lay deputies, to represent this church in general convention, in case such convention should be held previously to the next stated meeting of this convention. This was unanimously agreed to; and the following gentlemen were duly chosen: *Clerical Deputies.*—Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Mr. Hutchins, Rev. Mr. Blackwell, Rev. Mr. Pilmore. *Lay Deputies.*—Hon. Mr. Hopkinson, Mr. Powel, Mr. Doz, Mr. Tench Coxe. The convention then proceeded to the election of the council of advice, and the following gentlemen were duly chosen: Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Mr. Blackwell, and Rev. Mr. Pilmore; Hon. Mr. Hopkinson, Dr. Clarkson, and Mr. Doz.

On motion, *Resolved*, That, with respect to the delegation to the general convention, if, at any time, any member or members appointed should decline or, through some unavoidable circumstance, be unable to attend, on notice being given to the other members of the delegation, of the same order, they shall appoint, for the time being, a substitute or substitutes in his or their place.

The convention adjourned sine die.

JOURNAL OF THE FIFTH CONVENTION. Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 9th of June, 1789.

LIST OF MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., Bishop. Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., Rector of St. Paul's, Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., Rev. Joseph Bend, assistant ministers of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia. Rev. Joseph Pilmore, Rector of Trinity Church, &c. &c. Rev. Slator Clay, Rector of St. David's, &c. &c.

Laity.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia, Hon. Francis Hopkinson, Esquire. St. Peter's, Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, Mr. Tench Coxe. St. Paul's, John Swanwick, Esquire, Mr. George Nelson, Mr. John Wood. Trinity Church, Oxford, Mr. Benjamin Cottman. All-Saints, Pemapecka, Mr. John B. Gilpin. St. Thomas's, Whittemarsh, Mr. Christopher Loeser. St. James' Perkioming, Dr. Robert Shannon. St. David's, Radnor, John Jones, Esquire.

The convention being assembled, the Rev. Dr. Ma-

gaw read prayers. Dr. Magaw declining the office of secretary, the convention elected the Rev. Mr. Bend. The deputies from the several congregations above mentioned produced the testimonials of their respective appointments, which were read, and approved of.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the associated churches annually contribute twelve pounds, for the purpose of defraying such expenses, as the convention of this church may incur; and that the said sum be raised according to the ratio settled for raising the sum of two hundred guineas, for defraying the expenses of the Right Rev. Dr. White's voyage to England for consecration. In consequence of the above resolve, the following sums were apportioned to the several churches, to which they are respectively annexed:

To Christ Church and St. Peter's,	- - -	£6 17s 6d
St. Paul's, Philadelphia,	- - -	3 17 6
Trinity Church, Oxford,	- - -	0 6 6
All-Saints, Pemapecka,	- - -	0 6 0
St. Thomas' Whittemarsh,	- - -	0 5 0
St. James' Perkioming,	- - -	0 4 3
St. David's, Radnor,	- - -	0 5 0

Resolved, That the Bishop and his council be requested to revise the canons of the church of England, to prepare a set for the government of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State, and to report the same to the next convention.

The convention then proceeded to the election of their deputies to the general convention, to be held in Philadelphia, on the fourth Tuesday in July next; when the following gentlemen were duly chosen: The Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Mr. Pilmore, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, and the Rev. Mr. Bend; the Hon. Francis Hopkinson, Esquire, Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, Samuel Powel, Esquire, and Mr. Tench Coxe.

Resolved, That if any of the deputies should decline the appointment, or be unable to attend, the remaining deputies of the same order shall, on notice given, elect another person in his stead, who shall, in all respects, act, as if directly appointed by the convention.

The Rev. Mr. Bend was appointed Treasurer of the monies paid by the different churches, for defraying the expenses of the convention. The following gentlemen were chosen, as council of advice and correspondence, for the ensuing year: Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Mr. Pilmore, and Rev. Dr. Blackwell; Hon. Francis Hopkinson, Esq.; Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, and Samuel Powel, Esq. The convention adjourned sine die.

JOURNAL OF THE SIXTH CONVENTION, Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 1st day of June, 1790.

LIST OF MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., Bishop. The Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., rector of St. Paul's, Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., Rev. Joseph Bend, assistant ministers of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia. Rev. John Andrews, D. D., rector of St. James', Bristol. Rev. Joseph Pilmore, rector of Trinity Church, &c. &c. Rev. Slator Clay, rector of St. David's, &c. &c. Rev. Elijah Rigg, rector of St. James' Lancaster. Rev. William Smith, D. D., Provost of the college, &c., in Philadelphia. Rev. Joseph Clarkson. Rev. Archibald Walker.

Laity.—Front Christ Church, Philadelphia, Joseph Swift, Esq., Mr. James Reynolds. St. Peter's, Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, Mr. John Wilcocks. St. Paul's, Plunket Fleeson, John Swanwick, Esqs., Mr. John

Campbell. *St. James', Lancaster*, Hon. George Ross, Esq. *Trinity Church, Oxford*, Mr. Joseph Ashton. *All Saints', Pemaopecka*, Mr. John B. Gilpin.

The convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Bend read prayers. The deputies from the several congregations before mentioned, produced the testimonials of their respective appointments, which were read, and approved of. The Rev. Dr. Andrews and the Rev. Mr. Rigg, took their seats in the convention; the former, as rector of St. James', Bristol; the latter, of St. James', Lancaster. The Rev. Mr. Bend was chosen secretary to the convention. The Rev. Dr. Smith informed the convention, that, in consequence of the 16th canon of the general convention, he considered himself a member of the convention of this church, and accordingly attended, to take his seat. After some conversation on this subject, the following resolution was offered by the Rev. Dr. Blackwell:

Resolved, That every clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal church in this state, who is entitled to the privileges of a citizen therin, shall also be entitled to a seat in the convention of the said church.

This resolution was postponed, to introduce the following, by Mr. Wilcocks:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this convention, that the Rev. Dr. Smith has a right to a seat therein; and that a committee be now appointed, to frame a rule on the subject of clerical membership in general, and to make report.

On motion of Mr. Swanwick, the said resolution was divided; and the former part being postponed, the latter was determined in the affirmative; and the Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Dr. Andrews, and the Rev. Dr. Blackwell were appointed the committee, and retired, for the purpose for which they were appointed. Mr. Wilcocks then withdrew the former part of his motion. The treasurer's accounts for the last year were read, and approved of; and the Rev. Mr. Bend was chosen treasurer for the ensuing year. The minutes of the last convention were read. On motion, *ordered*, That Mr. Swanwick and the secretary be a committee for publishing 200 copies of the journals of the convention of this church, together with the account of those meetings, which gave rise to the said convention. The committee appointed to frame a rule on the subject of clerical membership brought in a report, which being read, and amended, was agreed to, and is as follows:

Resolved, That every regularly ordained clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church, who is engaged as a professor, tutor, or instructor of youth, in any college, academy, or general seminary of learning in this state, duly incorporated; also every clergyman of the said church, resident in this state, and entitled to the privileges of a citizen, shall be entitled to a seat in the convention of this church, although without a parochial charge. Upon which, the Rev. Dr. Smith took his seat in the convention. Adjourned to 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

TUESDAY, 4 o'clock, P. M.—The convention met. The Rev. Mr. Clarkson and the Rev. Mr. Walker, clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, took their seats in the convention, in consequence of the rule for clerical membership, agreed to in the morning. The constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and the canons for the government of the same, were read; and notice was given to the convention, that it is proposed to consider and determine on, in the next general convention, the propriety of investing the house of

bishops with a full negative on the proceedings of the other house. On motion of the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the following recommendation was subscribed by at least two-thirds of the convention. "We, whose names are underwritten, are of opinion, that the dispensing with the knowledge of the Greek language, in the examination of the Rev. Elisha Rigg for the holy order of priests, will be of use to the church, of which we are the convention, in consideration of other qualifications of the said Rev. Elisha Rigg for the gospel ministry."

Resolved, That this convention proceed to the choice of clerical and lay deputies to the next general convention; and that they be chosen by the order, to which they respectively belong. The following gentlemen were then duly chosen:

Clerical Deputies.—Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Dr. Smith, Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Blackwell.

Lay Deputies.—Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, Joseph Swift, John Swanwick, Esqs.; Mr. James Reynolds.

Resolved, That the said deputies be invested with the same power with those appointed at the last convention. The following gentlemen were then chosen a standing committee of the convention of this church, agreeably to the 6th canon of the general convention: Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Mr. Filmore, Dr. Gerardus Clarkson, Joseph Swift, and Samuel Powel, Esqs.

Ordered, That the standing committee be a council of advice to the Bishop.

Resolved, That the council of advice be authorized to concur with any persons appointed in other states, for encouraging the printing of a folio or quarto book of common prayer, for the use of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. The convention requested the bishop and his council to consider of canons, for the government of this church, in addition to those ratified by the general convention. The convention adjourned sine die.

Published by order of the convention.

JOSEPH G. J. BEND, Secretary.
J. SWANWICK.

JOURNAL OF THE SEVENTH CONVENTION, *Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday,* *June 21st, 1791.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Pilmore, the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. William Smith, D. D., the Rev. Slator Clay, the Rev. Elisha Rigg, the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, A. M., the Rev. Archibald Walker, A. M.

Laity.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Mr. Robert Towers, Mr. James Reynolds. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—Samuel Powel, Esq., William Bingham, Esq. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. John Campbell, Mr. George Nelson, Mr. John Wood. From St. David's, Radnor—John Jones, Esq. From St. Paul's, Chester—George Pierce, Esq., Elisha Price, Esq., Mr. James Withy. From St. Martin's, Mareus Hook—Mr. Joseph Marshall, Mr. Zachariah Derrick.

The convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Clarkson read prayers.

Ordered, That the members produce the testimonials of their several appointments, which, being produced, were read and approved. The Rev. Mr. Clarkson was chosen secretary. The deputies from St. Paul's

church, Chester, and from St. Martin's church, Marcus Hook, presented a petition from their respective churches, praying that the knowledge of the Latin and Greek languages might be dispensed with, in the case of Mr. Joseph Turner, in consideration of his possessing other qualifications necessary for the gospel ministry. After some conversation on the subject, the question was put and carried. Whereupon it appeared, that two-thirds of the convention, (agreeably to the canon in such cases made and provided) recommended Mr. Turner for ordination, for those churches.

Resolved, That the convention now go into the choice of clerical and lay deputies to the next general convention, and that the two orders choose as heretofore.

The following gentlemen were then duly chosen:

Clerical Deputies.—The Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell.

Lay Deputies.—Joseph Swift, Esq., William Bingham, Esq., John Swanwick, Esq., Mr. James Reynolds.

Resolved, That the said deputies be invested with the same power, those had who were appointed last year, viz: That if any one or more, either of the clergy or laity, should decline the appointment, or be unable to attend, those who remain of the same order, may, on notice being given, elect others in their stead, who shall, in all respects, act as if directly appointed by the convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That there shall be an act of this convention, to the following effect, viz: Whereas, as it hath been the usage of the church in this State, to have a council of advice, with whom the bishop may consult, in the execution of his office; and Whereas, by the 6th canon of the general convention, it is required of the church in this state, to have a standing committee, for certain purposes, expressed by the said canon; and Whereas, it is expedient, to declare more expressly than has hitherto been done, the constitution of the said council of advice and standing committee:

Therefore it is hereby enacted, that the said bodies shall consist of ten members, viz: five clerical, and five lay members, and shall consist of the same persons; so that when a council of advice is chosen, from year to year, the same shall have, and exercise the powers of a standing committee, and shall from time to time appoint a secretary, and keep regular minutes of the proceedings, subject to the inspection of the convention. And, any three members, (the whole having been duly summoned) shall be a quorum, except for such purposes as may require a larger number, agreeably to any rules to be made, by the said council of advice, and said committee. And the rules of meeting, and business of the said council of advice, and standing committee, may be made, altered, or repealed by them, from time to time.

Enacted, this 21st day of June, 1791. The following gentlemen were duly chosen members of the aforesaid council of advice, and standing committee:

Clergy.—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Mr. Pilmore.

Laity.—Samuel Powel, Esq., William Bingham, Esq., John Swanwick, Esq., Mr. John Wood, Mr. James Reynolds.

Resolved, That the deputies to the general convention, be instructed to press, at any meeting which there may be of that body, and before such meeting, if any

fit opportunity should offer, the necessity of further election, in some of the states, of persons to be consecrated Bishops, in order that the succession may be secured. The Rev. Mr. Clarkson was chosen treasurer for the ensuing year.

Resolved, That the next convention shall meet at Christ Church, in Philadelphia, on the annual day, at 10 o'clock in the morning. The convention then broke up.

JOURNAL OF THE EIGHTH CONVENTION. Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, June 5th, 1792.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Pilmore, the Rev. Slator Clay, the Rev. Elisha Rigg, the Rev. Joseph Turner.

From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Joseph Swift, Esq., Mr. Joseph Claypoole, Mr. James Reynolds. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—Samuel Powel, Esq., William Bingham, Esq., Mr. Woodrop Sims. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. John Campbell, Mr. John Wood, Mr. George Nelson. From St. Peter's, in the Great Valley—Mr. John Quinn. From St. David's, Radnor—Hugh De Haven, Esq. From St. Martin's, Marcus Hook—Mr. Joseph Marshall. From Trinity Church, Oxford—Mr. B. Cottman. From All Saints', Pennypack—Mr. John B. Gilpin. From St. James', Perkiomen—Dr. Robert Shannon.

The convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Clay read prayers. The deputies from the several congregations before mentioned, produced the testimonials of their several appointments, which were read and approved of. Mr. John B. Gilpin was chosen secretary. There being no other business before the convention, it was moved, that the convention should proceed to the election of deputies to attend the next general convention, to be held in New York. When the following gentlemen were duly chosen:

Clerical Deputies.—The Rev. William Smith, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Pilmore, the Rev. Elisha Rigg.

Lay Deputies.—William Bingham, Esq., Mr. Woodrop Sims, Mr. John B. Gilpin, Mr. John Campbell. The convention then proceeded to the election of a council of advice, and a standing committee, when the following gentlemen were chosen:

Clergy.—The Rev. William Smith, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. R. Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Pilmore.

Laity.—Samuel Powel, Esq., William Bingham, Esq., Joseph Swift, Esq., Mr. John Wood, Mr. James Reynolds.

Resolved, That if any of the deputies shall decline the appointments, or be unable to attend, the remaining deputies of the same order, shall, on notice given, elect another person in his stead, who shall in all respects act as if directly appointed by the convention. On motion of the Rev. Dr. Magaw, it was resolved, that the deputies appointed to the ensuing general convention, shall be instructed to urge the necessity of an ample appointment of the clerical order, to the episcopacy, in the several states, to perpetuate the succession of bishops in America. On motion of the Rev. Dr. Magaw, it was resolved that the secretary of the standing committee and council of advice, be

directed to lay the minutes of the preceding year's business annually before the convention.

Resolved, That the next convention shall meet at Christ Church, in Philadelphia, on the annual day, at 10 o'clock.

The convention then broke up.

JOURNAL OF THE NINTH CONVENTION,
Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday,
May 28th, 1793.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Pilmore, the Rev. Slator Clay, the Rev. Elisha Rigg, the Rev. Joseph Turner.

Laity.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Joseph Swift, Esq., Mr. James Reynolds, Mr. Joseph Claypoole. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—William Bingham, Esq., Francis Gurney, Esq. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. John Campbell, Mr. John Wood. From St. James', Perkiomen—Mr. Henry Pawling. From St. Martin's, Marcus Hook—Mr. Zachariah Derrick. From St. James', Lancaster—Mr. Henry Bennet.

The Convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Clay read prayers. The deputies from the several congregations before mentioned, produced the testimonials of their respective appointments, which were read and approved of. The Rev. Slater Clay was appointed Secretary, and the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Treasurer. Dr. Thomas Ruston, from St. John's Church, New London, signed the act of association, and took his seat accordingly. On motion of the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Convention proceeded to the election of a Standing Committee, and Council of Advice, when the following gentlemen were duly elected.

Clerical Members.—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Joseph Pilmore.

Lay Members.—William Bingham, Esq., Samuel Powel, Esq., Joseph Swift, Esq., Mr. James Reynolds, Mr. John Wood.

Deputies to the General Convention :

Clerical Deputies.—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Dr. Andrews.

Lay Deputies.—William Bingham, Esq., Dr. Thos. Ruston, Mr. James Reynolds, Mr. John Wood.

The following gentlemen appeared in Convention, as deputed by sundry members of this Church, in their respective townships, who have formed themselves into congregations for the purposes of Church Communion in the said townships, with an intention of building churches therein, namely :—From Christ Church, Turbutt Township—Mr. Matthias Webb. From St. Paul's Church, Fishing Creek Township—Mr. Elisha Barton. From Christ Church, Derry Township—Mr. John Funston. All in Northumberland county. The said deputies on signing the act of association, were admitted as members of this Convention. The Convention, upon the testimonials stated to them, of the character and qualifications of Mr. Robert Davis, resolved to recommend to the Bishop, to dispense, in his case, with the usual requisition of the learned languages. Application being made to the Convention, to dispense with the knowledge of Latin and Greek in the case of Mr. Caleb Hopkins, of Northumberland county;

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Council of Advice inquire into the circumstances of Mr. Hopkins' case, and report thereon to the next Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the next annual meeting of the Convention, shall be in the town of Carlisle.

On motion of Mr. Gurney, the foregoing resolve was re-considered, and the Convention adjourned, to meet at Philadelphia, at Christ Church, on the annual day, at ten o'clock in the morning.

The Convention then broke up.

JOURNAL OF THE TENTH CONVENTION,
Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday,
June 17th, 1794.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Turner.

Laity.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Mr. James Reynolds, Mr. Joseph Claypoole. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—Francis Gurney, Esq. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. John Campbell, Mr. John Dowers, Mr. William Stevenson. From Christ Church, Derry, Northumberland county—Mr. Funston. From Christ Church, Turbutt, Northumberland county—Mr. Barnard Hubly.

The Convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Turner read prayers. The deputies from the several congregations before mentioned, produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read, and approved of. The Convention proceeded to the election of a Secretary, when the Rev. James Abercrombie was chosen. A petition was presented to the Convention from the Church Wardens and Vestry of the congregations of Christ Church, Derry, and Christ Church, Turbutt Township, praying that Mr. Caleb Hopkins may be ordained as their minister; whereupon,

Resolved, That, in consideration of the reasons offered in the said petition, it be recommended that an examination in the Greek and Latin languages, be dispensed with, in the case of Mr. Hopkins; and a recommendation in his favor was accordingly signed, as the canon directs.

Application was made by Mr. Hall, Mr. Ormrod and Dr. Young, for a recommendation to the Committee at New York, which was appointed by the General Convention, to superintend the printing of the Prayer-book, for permission, *separately*, to print the same; which recommendation was accordingly granted. The Convention then proceeded to the election of Deputies to the General Convention, and of a Standing Committee, and Council of Advice; when the following gentlemen were chosen.

Deputies to the General Convention :—

Clerical Deputies.—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Dr. Magaw.

Lay Deputies.—Joseph Swift, Esq., Francis Gurney, Esq., Mr. James Reynolds, Mr. John Campbell. Standing Committee and Council of Advice :—

Clerical Members.—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Hutchins.

Lay Members.—William Bingham, Esq., Francis Gurney, Esq., Joseph Swift, Esq., Mr. James Reynolds, Mr. Richard Thompson.

On motion of Dr. Magaw, *Resolved*, that six weeks previous to the next meeting of the State Convention,

the Secretary shall transmit to every clergyman, or where there is no clergyman, to the wardens of every congregation, a letter, informing them of the time and place of meeting.

Resolved, That the next Convention shall meet at Christ Church, in Philadelphia, on the annual day at 10 o'clock in the morning. The Convention then broke up.

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JOURNAL OF THE ELEVENTH CONVENTION.  
*Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday,  
June 2d, 1795.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Clergy*.—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Hutchins, D. D., the Rev. William Smith, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Turner.

*Lality*.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Mr. Joseph Claypoole, Mr. Leeson Simmons. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—Francis Gurney, Esq., Mr. William Allibone. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. William Stevenson, Mr. Richard North. From St. Jaines', Perkiomen—Mr. Henry Pawling. From Trinity, All Saints, and St. Thomas'—Mr. John Lardner, Mr. J. B. Gilpin, and Mr. Christopher Loeser. From St. Martin's, Marcus Hook—Mr. David Kellam.

The Convention being assembled, the Rev. James Abercrombie read prayers. The deputies from the several congregations above mentioned, produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. The Convention proceeded to the election of a Secretary, when the Rev. James Abercrombie was chosen. The following additional canons were proposed by the Rev. Dr. Magaw, and after being read by the Secretary, and considered by paragraphs, were adopted.

CANON I.  
*Of Presentments.*

Every trial in this Church for misbehaviour, shall be on presentment made, either by the Convention, or by the vestry of the parish to which the accused party belongs, specifying the crime of which the party is accused.

CANON II.  
*Of Inquiries on Presentments.*

Presentment for misbehaviour being made as aforesaid, the Bishop, with the consent of the Council of Advice, shall appoint a Commissary, who shall repair to the Church or parish where the abuse is said to have happened, and shall there after summons of the parties, and the hearing of the witnesses, establish and authenticate all such facts as may be necessary to an investigation of the subject, reporting the same to the Bishop; and the record shall be of full authority, unless error or mal-practice being proved, a new examination shall be ordered; and the testimony taken as aforesaid, shall be signed by the witnesses, and the whole record of proceedings by the Commissary; and on the examination of any witness, a magistrate shall be requested to administer to him or her an oath or affirmation, if the accused party requires it.

CANON III.

*Of Penalties.*

The Bishop, or any clergyman appointed by him, as a Commissary, with assessors to be appointed, as

in the next article, shall proceed to a full examination of the causes, and to a final sentence, which in the case of a clergyman may be admonition, suspension or degradation; and in the case of either clergyman or layman, may be exclusion from the Holy Communion, or the disavowing of the party as any longer a member of this Church. Provided that no sentence of degradation shall pass, otherwise than is ordered in the sixth article of the General Ecclesiastical Constitution. Provided further, that due notice of the time and place of trial be given to the party accused, who shall then and there attend, unless prevented by some reasonable cause, to be judged of by the Bishop and assessors, in which case another notice shall be given as before, and the party accused be furnished with a copy of the charge, at least one month before the trial; and in failure of attendance, no sentence shall pass for any other crime than that of Contumacy, which however shall subject him to the same penalties, as if the evil practice imputed to him, had been proved.

CANON IV.

*Of Assessors on Trials.*

On the trial of a clergyman, there shall be four clergymen appointed by the Bishop, with the knowledge and consent of the Council of Advice, out of which number, the party accused shall choose any two, as assessors; the whole number as above, having been convened on summons issued by a Secretary, who shall be appointed by the Convention, and until such Secretary be appointed, the Secretary of the Convention shall serve in that capacity. In every decision, there shall be an agreement of the major number, of the Bishop, or Commissary, and the assessors, as to matter of fact; and sentence shall be given by the Bishop or Commissary, according to the Canons. In the case of a layman, the proceedings shall be as above, only that there shall be in addition to the above clergyman, three lay assessors, the major part of whom shall find the facts, before any sentence shall be given; which three lay assessors shall be chosen by the party accused, out of six laymen of the congregation to which he belongs, who shall be summoned for the purpose, with the knowledge and consent of the Council of Advice.

CANON V.

*Of the Trial of a Bishop.*

If the presentment be of any Bishop of the Church in this State, which shall only be by the Convention thereof, it shall be made to two or more Bishops of this Church, in any of the United States. Such Bishops shall have authority to institute a trial within the diocese of the accused Bishop, and the sentence of the said two Bishops, or the majority of a greater number, being declared to be grounded on the Canons of the Church, shall be final.

CANON VI.

*Of the Removal of Ministers from any State into this.*

To qualify a clergyman coming into this State, from any of the States in the Union, to settle and officiate as a clergyman; it shall be necessary to obtain a license thereunto, from the Bishop: and to entitle him to such license, he shall produce from the Bishop, (or if there be no Bishop, from the Standing Committee of Convention of the State from which he removes,) a certificate of his good moral conduct, and orderly compliance with the institutions and government of the Church, while in his or their district; and on such certificate being produced, the Bishop of the Church

in this State shall give, to the party, the license required.

#### CANON VII.

##### *Of the Celebration of Marriages.*

No minister of this Church shall celebrate any marriage, without having as sufficient testimony, as the nature of the case admits, that there is no lawful impediment; and if there be any doubt in regard to either of the parties, as to his or her being of age or free; then there appearing to be a master or mistress, parent or guardian, shall make it necessary to have the consent of such master or mistress, parent or guardian. And if the minister be duly certified that there is no legal impediment, he then may, and, if either of the parties be of the congregation of the minister, it shall be his duty to join them in marriage.

The following resolutions were offered by the Rev. Dr. Smith, and agreed to, viz:—

1st. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the vestries of the several churches not incorporated to apply to the judges of the Supreme Court, according to law, for charters of incorporation, which charters, before they are presented to the judges, shall be laid before the Bishop and his Council of Advice for approbation, and ought to be as nearly similar throughout the State, as local circumstances will admit.

2dly. That the vestry of every congregation or church now vacant, or unprovided with a minister, or such as shall hereafter become vacant, ought to have a standing subscription prepared, either in cash or pew rents, or partly in both, for a term of not less than three years, conditioned for a punctual payment of the same, to such minister as shall be duly elected and settled, according to the established rules of the several Churches; and that the profits and rents of glebes, where there are any, shall be applied only during a vacancy, to institute a capital fund, bearing interest for the use of the minister of such Church for the time being, excepting only where the donor of such glebe may have applied any part of the rents thereof to other pious purposes.

It was moved and seconded, that in the examination for Holy Orders of Absalom Jones, a black man, belonging to the African Church of St. Thomas, in this city, the knowledge of the Latin and Greek languages be dispensed with, agreeably to the Canon.

*Resolved*, That the same be granted, provided it is not to be understood to entitle the African Church to send a clergyman or deputies to the Convention, or to interfere with the general government of the Episcopal Church, this condition being made, in consideration of their peculiar circumstances at present.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Advice be authorized to print and publish the journals of the five last Conventions, inclusive of the present.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of deputies to the General Convention, and of a Standing Committee and Council of Advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen.

##### Deputies to the General Convention:—

*Clerical Deputies*—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Dr. Magaw.

*Lay Deputies*—Joseph Swift, Esq., Francis Gurney, Esq., Mr. J. B. Gilpin, Mr. William Stevenson.

##### Standing Committee and Council of Advice:—

*Clerical Members*.—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Dr. Hutchins.

*Lay Members*.—Joseph Swift, Esq., Francis Gurney, Esq., William Bingham, Esq., Mr. William Allibone, Mr. Richard North.

Resolved, That the next Convention shall meet at Christ Church, in Philadelphia, on the annual day, at ten o'clock in the morning.

The Convention then broke up.

JAMES ABERCROMBIE, *Secretary.*

#### JOURNAL OF THE TWELFTH CONVENTION, *Held in Christ Church, on Tuesday, May 24th, 1796.*

##### MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Clergy*.—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Turner.

*Laity*.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Joseph Swift, Esq., Mr. Joseph Claypoole, Mr. Leeson Simmons. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—Francis Gurney, Esq., John Donaldson, Esq. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. Godfrey Twells, Mr. W. Stevenson, Mr. John Savidge. From Trinity, All Saints, and St. Thomas'—William Lardner, Esq. From St. James', Perkiomen—Mr. Henry Pawling.

The Convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie read prayers. The deputies from the several congregations above mentioned, produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. The Convention proceeded to the election of a Secretary, when the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie was chosen. Dr. Blackwell presented an account from Messrs. Ormrod & Conrad, for printing the Journals of the five last State Conventions, amounting to eleven pounds, and there being no money in his hands, as Treasurer, to pay the same,

On motion, *Resolved*, That in order to provide a fund for printing the Journals, and defraying the other incidental expenses of the State Convention, the associated churches shall annually contribute one per cent. upon the salary paid to their respective Ministers. A Petition was presented by Mr. Stevenson, signed by twenty-five members of St. Paul's Church, praying that the 6th canon of the State Convention of 1795, and the 5th canon of the last General Convention may be amended; Whereupon, it was moved and seconded, that a question be put, whether the 6th canon of the State Convention be rescinded or amended, which being put accordingly, was determined in the negative.

The following proposed canon was presented by the Rev. Dr. Andrews, which was read, and referred to the next Convention.

#### CANON VIII.

"If a clergyman residing in another State shall come into this State, and act in open violation of the canons, and on a representation being made thereof to the Ecclesiastical authority in that State, it shall appear that the said clergyman is not considered as a member of that Church; it shall, in that case, be the duty of the Bishop of this State to give notice to the congregations belonging to his diocese or district, that such clergyman is not considered for the present as a clergyman of this church, and that his officiating in their churches is prohibited."

The Convention then proceeded to the election of delegates to the General Convention; and of a Standing Committee, and Council of Advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen.

Delegates to the General Convention:

*Clerical Deputies*.—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev.

**Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell.**

**Lay Deputies.**—Joseph Swift, Esq., Francis Gurney, Esq., Mr. J. B. Gilpin, Mr. Wm. Stevenson.

Standing Committee and Council of Advice :

**Clerical Members.**—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Dr. Hutchins.

**Lay Members.**—Joseph Swift, Esq., Francis Gurney, Esq., John Donnaldson, Esq., Capt. Wm. Allibone, Mr. Godfrey Twells.

*Resolved*, That the next Convention shall meet at Christ church, in Philadelphia, on the next annual day at 10 o'clock in the morning.

The Convention then broke up.

JAMES ABERCROMBIE, *Secretary.*

## JOURNAL OF THE THIRTEENTH CONVENTION,

*Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, June 13th, 1797.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

**Clergy.**—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Hutchins, D. D., the Rev. William Smith, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Turner, the Rev. Levi Heath, the Rev. Caleb Hopkins.

**Laity.**—From Christ church, Philadelphia—Mr. Joseph Claypoole, Mr. Leeson Simmons. From St. Peter's church, Philadelphia—Francis Gurney, Esq., John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq. From St. Paul's church, Philadelphia—Mr. William Stevenson, Mr. Richard North. From St. Martin's church, Marcus Hook—Mr. Zachariah Derrick.—From Christ church, Northumberland—Mr. Zachariah Bull.

The Convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie read prayers, and was appointed Secretary. The deputies from the several congregations produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. The minutes of the former Convention were read, and the canon then proposed by Dr. Andrews was taken into consideration and passed. The deputies from St. Paul's Church, Philadelphia, made a proposal tending to the repeal of certain canons of the General Convention, which proposal was in consequence of instructions from the congregation of the said church. There was also read a letter addressed to the Convention by sundry members of the same church, objecting to certain matters contained in the said instructions. The Convention, without taking any order in the aforesaid business, earnestly recommend to the congregation to adopt measures in the spirit of christian love and forbearance, for healing of their divisions.

*Resolved*, That the two papers presented by the members from St. Paul's, be returned to the respective gentlemen who presented them, with a copy of the above recommendation.

Dr. Blackwell proposed a canon on the general state of the church, which was passed, and is as follows :

### CANON IX.

As a free intercourse of friendly communication, between the several congregations of the Protestant

Episcopal Church, in the district of Pennsylvania, would greatly contribute to the interest and satisfaction of the whole body : it is therefore required of every clergyman, to make such communication to the Bishop of said church, in the month of March yearly, and every year, in which he shall set forth the particular circumstances of the congregation or congregations in which he officiates. As, the number of families belonging to each, the baptisms, communicants, and such general information concerning the state of the church, as he shall think useful and necessary. And that, whenever the Journals of this Convention shall be published, such extracts from said communication as may be thought advisable, shall be published with them.

*Resolved*, That a sermon be preached at the opening of every future Convention, and that the Rt. Rev. Dr. White be requested to perform that duty at the next.

*Resolved*, That 1½ per cent. instead of 1 per cent. as enacted at the last Convention, be collected on the salaries of the different ministers of the associated churches, throughout the State, as a fund for printing the Journals and defraying the other incidental expenses of the Convention.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of delegates to the General Convention ; and of a Standing Committee and council of advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen.

Delegates to the General Convention :

**Clerical Deputies.**—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell.

**Lay Deputies.**—Joseph Swift, Esq., Francis Gurney, Esq., John C. Stocker, Esq., Mr. Wm. Stevenson. Standing Committee and Council of Advice :

**Clerical Members.**—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Hutchins, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell.

**Lay Members.**—Joseph Swift, Esq., Francis Gurney, Esq., Wm. Bingham, Esq., John C. Stocker, Esq., Mr. W. Stevenson.

*Resolved*, That the next Convention shall meet at Christ Church, in Philadelphia, on the annual day.

The Convention then broke up.

JAMES ABERCROMBIE, *Secretary.*

### CANON X.

Passed at the 13th State Convention, June 23, 1797, and amended by the following Convention, June 5, 1798.

As a free intercourse of friendly communication between the several congregations of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the district of Pennsylvania, would greatly contribute to the interest and satisfaction of the whole body ; it is therefore required of every clergyman to make such communication to the Bishop of said church on the 2d Monday after Whit-sunday yearly, and in every year, on, or before the said day to be delivered into his hands by every clergyman, or by some person on his behalf; in which he shall set forth the particular circumstances of the congregation or congregations in which he officiates ; as, the number of families belonging to each, the baptisms, communicants, and such general information concerning the state of the church, as he shall think useful and necessary ; and that whenever the Journals of this Convention shall be published, such extracts from said communication, as may be thought advisable, shall be published with them.

**JOURNAL OF THE FOURTEENTH CONVENTION,**

*Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday June 5th, 1798.*

**MEMBERS PRESENT.**

**Clergy.**—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Turner, the Rev. John H. Hobart, A. M.

**Laiety.**—From Christ church, Philadelphia—Joseph Swift, Esq., Mr. Leeson Simmons, Mr. Joseph Claypoole. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—Col. F. Gurney, John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq. From Trinity, All Saints', and St. Thomas' churches—Mr. J. B. Gilpin, and Mr. C. Loeser.

The Convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie read prayers, and was afterwards unanimously chosen Secretary. The delegates from the several congregations produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. The minutes of the former Convention were read. The Bishop having stated to the Convention that it was his design, in the event of his life and health, and if approved of by the Convention, to deliver to the clergy, an annual pastoral charge at the future meetings of the Convention, and in their presence,

**Resolved,** That the same is approved of, and the Bishop is desired to carry it into effect.

**Resolved,** That the canon passed at the last Convention be so far altered, as that the returns to be made to the Bishop, by the several parochial clergy in the month of March yearly, and in every year, be on the second Monday after Whitsunday, yearly, and in every year, on, or before the said day, to be delivered into his hands by every clergyman, or some person on his behalf.

**Resolved,** That the aforesaid canon, as altered, be sent to every clergyman, and to every congregation destitute of a minister, with a notification of the stated annual day of the meeting of the State Convention.

**Resolved,** That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of this Convention to give notice of the annual day of meeting to every clergyman, and to every congregation destitute of a minister, to be sent not later than the preceding Easter.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of delegates to the General Convention; and of a Standing Committee, and council of advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen.

Delegates to the General Convention:

**Clerical Members.**—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell.

**Lay Members.**—Joseph Swift, Esq., Francis Gurney, Esq., John C. Stocker, Esq., Mr. J. B. Gilpin.

Standing Committee and Council of Advice:

**Clerical Members.**—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie.

**Lay Members.**—Joseph Swift, Esq., Francis Gurney, Esq., John C. Stocker, Esq., John Donnaldson, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq.

**Resolved,** That the next Convention shall meet at Christ Church, in Philadelphia, on the next annual day at 10 o'clock in the morning.

The Convention then broke up.

**JAMES ABERCROMBIE, Secretary.**

**JOURNAL OF THE FIFTEENTH CONVENTION,**

*Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, May 21st, 1799.*

**MEMBERS PRESENT.**

**Clergy.**—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. William Smith, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, A. M.

**Laiety.**—From Christ church, and St. Peter's, Philadelphia—Joseph Swift, Esq., Gen. Gurney, John C. Stocker, Esq., Capt. Leeson Simmons.

The Convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie read prayers, and was then unanimously elected Secretary. The delegates from Christ Church and St. Peter's produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved.

**Resolved,** That, as through the omission of notice, or some other circumstances, the number of members who have attended this convention, is unusually small, the Bishop be requested to defer the delivery of the charge which he has prepared agreeably to the desire of the last convention.

The convention then proceeded to the election of delegates to the General Convention, and of a Standing Committee and council of advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen:

Delegates to the General Convention:

**Clerical Members.**—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell.

**Lay Members.**—Gen. Francis Gurney, John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq., Mr. J. B. Gilpin.

Standing Committee and Council of Advice:

**Clerical Members.**—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie.

**Lay Members.**—Gen. Francis Gurney, Joseph Swift, Esq., J. C. Stocker, Esq., John Donnaldson, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq.

**Resolved,** That the next Convention shall meet at Christ Church, in Philadelphia, on the next annual day, at 10 o'clock in the morning.

The Convention then broke up.

**JAMES ABERCROMBIE, Secretary.**

**JOURNAL OF THE SIXTEENTH CONVENTION,**

*Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, June 10th, 1800.*

**MEMBERS PRESENT.**

**Clergy.**—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Turner.

**Laiety.**—From Christ church, Philadelphia—Mr. Joseph Claypoole, Mr. Leeson Simmons. From St. Peter's church, Philadelphia—General Gurney, John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq.

The Rev. Mr. Clarkson read prayers. The lay delegates produced their testimonials of appointment which were read and approved. The Convention proceeded to the election of a Secretary, when the Rev. Dr. Blackwell was chosen.

The Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Mr. Clarkson, Gen. Gurney, and Joseph Sims, Esq., members of the late General Convention, communicated the following resolution of that body, *to wit*: **Resolved,** That it be made known to the several State Conventions, that it is proposed, to consider and determine in the next

**General Convention**, on the following alteration of the first Article of the Constitution, to read thus: *Art. 1st,* There shall be a General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States of America, on the third Tuesday of May, in the year of our Lord 1805, and on the third Tuesday in May, in every fifth year afterwards, in such place, &c., as before.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of delegates to the General Convention, and of the Standing Committee and council of advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen:

Delegates to the General Convention :

**Clerical Deputies.**—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell.

**Lay Deputies.**—Gen. Gurney, John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq., Mr. John B. Gilpin.

Standing Committee and Council of Advice :

**Clerical Members.**—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie.

**Lay Members.**—Gen. Gurney, Joseph Swift, Esq., John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq., Mr. T. Cumpston.

*Resolved*, That the Convention shall meet at Christ church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the next annual day at 10 o'clock, A. M. The Convention then adjourned.

ROBERT BLACKWELL, *Secretary.*

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JOURNAL OF THE SEVENTEENTH CONVENTION,

Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, June 2nd, 1801.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. William Smith, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, A. M., the Rev. Caleb Hopkins.

Laity.—From Christ church, Philadelphia—Mr. Joseph Claypoole, Mr. Leeson Simmons. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—General Gurney, J. C. Stocker, Esq.

The convention being assembled, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell read prayers. The lay deputies produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. The convention proceeded to the election of a Secretary, when Dr. Blackwell was chosen.

Resolved, That the time of the annual meeting of this convention shall be advertised in at least two newspapers, for six weeks previous to the day of meeting.

Resolved, That the council of advice form a plan, by which the vacant congregations of the church in this State may occasionally have the benefit of divine service and preaching among them. And it is recommended to every clergyman to give a Sunday or two in each year, for promoting so good and pious a purpose.

The convention then proceeded to the election of delegates to the General Convention, and of a Standing Committee and council of advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen:

Deputies to the General Convention :

Clerical Deputies.—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell.

Lay Deputies.—General Gurney, John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq., Mr. John B. Gilpin.

Standing Committee and Council of Advice :

Clerical Members.—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie.

Lay Members.—General Gurney, Joseph Swift, Esq., John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq., Mr. Thomas Cumpston.

Resolved, That the next convention shall meet at Christ Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the next annual day, which is the second Tuesday after the Feast of Pentecost, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The convention then adjourned.

ROBERT BLACKWELL, *Secretary.*

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## JOURNAL OF THE EIGHTEENTH CONVENTION,

*Held in Christ Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, June 15th, 1802.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

**Clergy.**—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Turner.

**Laity.**—From Christ church, Philadelphia—Mr. Leeson Simmons. From St. Peter's church, Philadelphia—General Gurney, Joseph Sims, Esq. From All Saints', Philadelphia county—Mr. J. B. Gilpin.—From St. Gabriel's, Berks county—Mr. Nicholas Jones.

The Rev. Mr. Turner read prayers. The convention proceeded to the election of a Secretary, when the Rev. Dr. Blackwell was chosen. The lay delegates produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. The resolution of the General Convention, held at Trenton, in the State of New Jersey in Sept. 1801, for altering the First Article of the Constitution, was made known to this convention.

Inasmuch as a report has for some time past prevailed, and yet obtains, affecting the moral character of the Rev. Robert Andrews, a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the State of Pennsylvania,—late of Pittsburg, and now teacher of a private school in this city, the influence of which report must be deeply injurious to the interest of religion, and the reputation of the church: *Resolved*, that the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, Mr. Jones, and Gen. Gurney, be a committee of inquiry to examine impartially, and strictly, into the grounds of the above, and, of the same, to make report to this convention as soon as may be.

The convention then proceeded to the election of delegates to the General Convention, and of a Standing Committee and council of advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen.

Deputies to the General Convention :

**Clerical Deputies.**—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell.

**Lay Deputies.**—Gen. Francis Gurney, John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq., Mr. John B. Gilpin.

Standing Committee and Council of Advice :

**Clerical Members.**—The Rev. Dr. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie.

**Lay Members.**—Gen. Francis Gurney, Joseph Swift, Esq., John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq., Mr. Thomas Cumpston.

On motion, *Resolved*, That if any of the deputys

to the General Convention should decline the appointment, or be unable to attend, the remaining deputies, of the same order, may elect another person in his stead, who shall have the same powers as if directly appointed by the convention. The convention then adjourned 'till to-morrow, 4 o'clock, P. M.

*Wednesday, June 16th, 1802.*

The convention met according to adjournment.

PRESENT,

The Rt. Rev. Dr. White, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Rev. Mr. Abercrombie. General Gurney, Mr. Nicholas Jones, Mr. Leeson Simmons, John C. Stocker, Esq.

The committee appointed to inquire concerning the alleged misconduct of the Rev. Robert Andrews; report that they have been as diligent in the said inquiry as the interval of time permitted; but had not yet obtained such information as to enable them to form an opinion, either as to the instituting a process on the ground of the canons, or as to the dismissal of the subject from the further consideration of the convention. The committee therefore recommend a further adjournment of the convention.

Mr. Nicholas Jones living at a great distance from Philadelphia, requested to be dismissed from the committee; his request was granted, and Mr. Stocker appointed one of the committee.

The convention then adjourned to the first Tuesday in October next; to meet at Christ church, in the city of Philadelphia, at 10 o'clock A. M.

ROBERT BLACKWELL, *Secretary.*

#### JOURNAL OF THE NINETEENTH CONVENTION,

*Held in Christ Church, on Tuesday, June 7th, 1803.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Clergy.*—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Turner, the Rev. John Armstrong.

*Laity.*—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Mr. Joseph Claypoole, Mr. Leeson Simmons, Mr. W. Hall. From St. Peter's Church, Philadelphia—General Gurney, John C. Stocker, Esq.

The Rev. Mr. Abercrombie read prayers. The Convention proceeded to the election of a Secretary, when the Rev. Dr. Blackwell was chosen. The minutes of the former Convention being read, it was given as a reason why the members did not attend their adjourned meeting on the first Tuesday in October, that the yellow fever then prevailed in the city. The lay delegates produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. The Convention went into the consideration of the case of the Rev. Robert Andrews, as apparent on the minutes of the last Convention. And after a full discussion of the subject, on motion made and seconded, *Resolved*, That, agreeably to the first Canon of the Church in this State, the said Rev. Robert Andrews be presented to the Bishop for trial, on the following charge, viz.: That the said Rev. Robert Andrews, knowing that he was reported to have been guilty of adultery, with a certain woman, in whose house he was a lodger, had not only neglected to take any measures to disprove the matter, although the same had been intimated to him by certain of his brethren of the clergy; but had continued to be a lodger in the house kept by the woman, with whom the said criminal conversation had been reported to have

taken place: Whereby the said Robert Andrews has brought reproach on the clerical character, and on religion generally. The Secretary is ordered to furnish the Bishop with a copy of the above. The Convention then proceeded to the election of Delegates to the General Convention, and of a Standing Committee and Council of Advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen:

Delegates to the General Convention:—

*Clerical Deputies.*—The Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Mr. Abercrombie.

*Lay Deputies.*—General Gurney, John C. Stoeker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq., Mr. John Lardner.

Standing Committee and Council of Advice:

*Clerical Deputies.*—The Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Magaw, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Mr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Turner.

*Lay Deputies.*—General Gurney, John C. Stoeker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq., Mr. Thomas Cumpston, Mr. James Ash.

*Resolved*, That if any of the deputies to the General Convention should decline the appointment, or be unable to attend, the remaining deputies of the same order, shall elect another person in his stead; who shall have the same powers as if directly appointed by the Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. Stocker, and Mr. Sims, be a committee on the part of this Convention, to attend any proceedings which may be held in the case of the Rev. Robert Andrews; and that the Bishop be desired to notify the said gentlemen of such proceedings, when held.

*Resolved*, That the Convention shall meet at Christ Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the next annual day at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Convention then adjourned.

ROBERT BLACKWELL, *Secretary.*

#### JOURNAL OF THE TWENTIETH CONVENTION,

*Held in Christ Church, on Tuesday, May 29th, 1804.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Clergy.*—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Hutehins, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Turner, the Rev. Caleb Hopkins.

*Laity.*—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Wm. Tilghman, Esq., Capt. Leeson Simmons. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—General Gurney, J. C. Stoeker, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sims. From St. Gabriel's, Berks County—Mr. Levi Bull.

The Rev. Mr. Clarkson read prayers. The lay delegates produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. The Convention proceeded to the election of a Secretary, when the Rev. Dr. Blackwell was chosen. It was communicated to this Convention by the Bishop, that the Rev. Robert Andrews had been degraded from the holy office of the ministry. Ordered, that the instrument of his degradation be entered on the minutes, which is as follows:

BY WILLIAM WHITE, D. D.  
*Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.*

Whereas it is provided by the first of the Canons of the General Convention of the year 1801, that "if

any person having been ordained in this Church, or having been otherwise regularly ordained and admitted a Minister in this Church, shall discontinue all exercise of the *ministerial* office without lawful cause, or shall avow that he is no longer a Minister of this Church, or shall live in the habitual disuse of the public worship or of the holy *Eucharist*, according to the offices of this Church, such person, on due proof of the same, or on his own confession, shall be liable to be degraded from the Ministry ;"

And whereas *Robert Andrews*, heretofore a Minister of this Church, hath declared his "determination of henceforth relinquishing all claim to the character and functions of a clergyman" in this Church; the said declaration being contained in a letter to the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., and the said letter having been acknowledged to me by the said Robert Andrews in person, to be his act and a true expression of his intentions;

Therefore, with the approbation of the Council of Advice, I degrade the said Robert Andrews from the Ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the *United States of America*; and I pronounce the former ordinations of the said Robert Andrews to the holy orders of Deacons and Priests to be henceforth of no effect.

WITNESS my hand, this twenty-seventh day of December, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and three.

WILLIAM WHITE.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of Delegates to the General Convention, and of the members of the Standing Committee and Council of Advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen:

*Delegates to the General Convention:*

*Clerical Delegates*—The Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Mr. Clarkson, Rev. Mr. Abercrombie.

*Lay Delegates*—Wm. Tilghman, Esq., General Gurney, T. Cumpston, Esq., Mr. Levi Bull.

*Standing Committee and Council of Advice:*

*Clerical Members*—The Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Hutchins, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Mr. Turner, Rev. Mr. Abercrombie.

*Lay Members*—General Gurney, John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq., T. Cumpston, Esq., James Ash, Esq.

The delegates to the General Convention are empowered by this Convention, to fill up any vacancy that may take place among them.

*Resolved*, That the next Convention shall meet at Christ Church, in Philadelphia, on the next annual day, at ten o'clock in the morning.

The Convention then broke up.

ROBERT BLACKWELL, *Secretary.*

## JOURNAL OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CONVENTION,

*Held in Christ Church, on Tuesday, June 11th, 1805.  
PRESENT.*

*Clergy*.—The Right Rev. Wm. White, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. Jos. Pilmor, the Rev. Jos. Turner, the Rev. Mr. Hopkins, the Rev. Mr. Bull.

*Laity*.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Samuel Wheeler, Esq., Captain L. Simmons. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—J. C. Stocker, Esq. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. John Claxton, Mr. Richard North, P. F. Glentworth, M. B. From St. Gabriel's, Morlatton—Mr. Nicholas Jones.

The convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Hopkins read prayers. The delegates from the several congregations before mentioned produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. The convention proceeded to the election of a secretary, when Dr. Glentworth was chosen.

On motion, resolved, That the secretary of the convention be desired to give notice, in future, of the annual day of the convention, to every clergyman of this church, within the state, and to add in each notice to every clergyman not residing in the city, that he is requested to give notice of the said annual day, not only to the wardens and vestrymen of his own congregation, but to those of every vacant congregation which may be in his vicinity; and the said duty is to be so performed by the secretary, that the notices may be received at least one month before the annual day.

*Resolved*, That it is highly expedient that some measures be adopted for occasional preaching in the vacant congregations of this church. And the clergy now present expressed their desire of severally contributing to this work, so far as is convenient with their respective situations;—Therefore,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed, who, with the Bishop, shall determine the times and places of preaching, as aforesaid; regard being had to the convenience of the different clergymen who are to undertake the duty. And whereas some clergymen in this state are so remote from the Bishop, that they cannot conveniently confer with him, or the committee to be appointed in regard to the time and place of preaching as aforesaid;—Therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the more distant clergy to take measures, either individually, or by such agreement as circumstances may permit, for the visiting of vacant congregations, within a convenient distance of them.

The convention then proceeded to the choice of a committee, when the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Mr. Pilmor, and Rev. Mr. Turner were chosen.

*Resolved*, That the different clergy be desired to report to the next convention, the visits which shall be made to vacant congregations, as above provided for.

*Resolved*, That the different clergymen visiting as above provided for, be desired to furnish the Bishop, and the committee, with such information as they shall be able to obtain from the different congregations, as to the best means of upholding the administration of the ordinances of religion among them, and that for this end the congregations be assured of the earnest desire which the convention entertain for the accomplishing of that object.

*Resolved*, that the secretary be desired to forward a copy of these resolutions to every clergyman within the State.

The convention proceeded to the election of delegates to the general convention, and of members of the Standing Committee and Council of Advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen:

*Deputies to the General Convention*:—

*Clerical Delegates*.—Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Clarkson.

*Lay Delegates*—Wm. Tilghman, Esq., Gen. Gurney, Mr. Nicholas Jones, Doctor Glentworth.

*Standing Committee and Council of Advice*:

*Clerical Members*.—Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Pilmor, Rev. Mr. Turner.

**Lay Members.**—Gen. Gurney, Samuel Wheeler, Esq., Mr. John Matthews, Mr. Joseph Sims, Mr. Thomas Cumpston.

**Resolved,** That the delegates to the general convention be empowered by this convention to fill up any vacancy that may take place among them.

**Resolved,** That the convention shall meet at Christ Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the next annual day, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Convention then adjourned.

PLUNKET F. GLENTWORTH, *Secretary.*

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JOURNAL OF THE TWENTY-SECOND CONVENTION,

Held in Christ Church, on Tuesday, June 3rd, 1806.

PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Pilmore, the Rev. Joseph Hutchins, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Turner, the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, A. M., the Rev. Caleb Hopkins, the Rev. Levi Bull.

Laity.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Capt. Leeson Simmons, Peter Browne, Esq. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—General Francis Gurney, Mr. Joseph Sims. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. John Claxton, P. F. Glentworth, M. B. From Trinity Church, Oxford, Philadelphia county—Mr. John Lardner. From All Saints Church, Philadelphia county—Mr. William Lardner. From St. Gabriel's, Berks county—Mr. Nicholas Jones.

The convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Bull read prayers. The convention proceeded to the election of a secretary, when Dr. Glentworth was chosen. The Secretary reported that the journal of the last, and a notice of the meeting of the present convention, had been forwarded to every clergyman within the state. Several of the clergy present having made verbal reports, that they had visited vacant congregations since the last convention,—On motion, resolved, That the clergy hereafter visiting such congregations, report to the Bishop in writing, such information as they shall be able to obtain respecting them, to be laid by him before the convention.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to request the attention of every clergyman within the state to the 11th canon of the general convention.

Resolved, That a discourse be delivered annually before the convention, on the second Wednesday after Whitsunday, the plan on which that duty shall be performed, to be determined by the Bishop and council of advice; and that notice be given of the same to every Episcopal congregation in this city the preceding Sunday.

The convention proceeded to the election of delegates to the general convention, and of members of the standing committee and council of advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen.

Delegates to the General Convention :

Clerical Delegates.—Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Clarkson.

Lay Delegates.—William Tilghman, Esq., General Gurney, Mr. Nicholas Jones, Dr. Glentworth.

Standing Committee and Council of Advice :

Clerical Members.—Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Pilmore, Rev. Mr. Turner.

Lay Members.—General Gurney, Samuel Wheeler,

Esq., Mr. John Matthews, Mr. Joseph Sims, Mr. Thomas Cumpston.

Resolved, That the delegates to the general convention be empowered to fill up any vacancy that may take place among them.

Resolved, That the secretary have the journal of the present convention printed.

Resolved, That the convention shall meet at Christ Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the next annual day.

The convention then adjourned.

P. F. GLENTWORTH, *Secretary.*

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## JOURNAL OF THE TWENTY-THIRD CONVENTION,

*Held in Christ Church, on Tuesday, May 26th, 1807.*

Clerical and lay deputies from several churches assembled, and adjourned to 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, May 27th, 1807.

### MEMBERS PRESENT.

**Clergy.**—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Pilmore, the Rev. Joseph Hutchins, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, A. M., the Rev. Joseph Turner, the Rev. Levi Bull.

**Laity.**—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Peter Browne, Esq., Mr. Leeson Simmons. From St. Peter's Church, Philadelphia—General Gurney, John C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. John Matthews, P. F. Glentworth, M. B. From Trinity Church, Oxford—John Lardner, Esq. From All Saint's, Penepack—William Lardner, Esq. From St. Gabriel's, Berks county—Mr. George Douglass.

The Rev. Mr. Pilmore read prayers, and the Right Rev. Dr. White delivered a pastoral charge. The delegates from the several congregations beforementioned produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. The convention proceeded to the election of a secretary, when Dr. Glentworth was chosen.

**Resolved,** That the thanks of the convention be presented to the Bishop, for his charge to the clergy, delivered this day; and that he be requested to furnish a copy of the same, to be printed.

Several of the clergy present, not being prepared to report a list of the marriages, baptisms, and communicants, in their congregation;

**Resolved,** That they be requested to report to the Bishop, such information as soon as possible, and that the secretary be directed to forward said list, to every clergyman in this State, with the present journal when printed.

The convention then proceeded to the election of delegates to the general convention, and a standing committee and council of advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen :

Delegates to the General Convention :

**Clerical Delegates.**—The Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Clarkson.

**Lay Delegates.**—General Gurney, Joseph Sims, Esq., Mr. John Lardner, Doctor Glentworth.

Standing Committee and Council of Advice :

**Clerical Members.**—The Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Pilmore, Rev. Mr. Turner.

*Lay Members.*—General Gurney, Joseph Sims, Esq., Samuel Wheeler, Esq., Mr. John Matthews, Mr. Thomas Cumpston.

*Resolved,* That the delegates to the general convention be empowered to fill up any vacancy that may take place among them.

*Resolved,* That the convention shall meet at Christ Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the next annual day at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The convention then adjourned.

P. F. GLENTWORTH, *Secretary.*

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JOURNAL OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH CONVENTION,

Held in Christ Church, on Tuesday, June 14th, 1808.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Pilmore, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Caleb Hopkins, the Rev. Levi Bull.

Laity.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Peter Browne, Esq., Mr. Leeson Simmons. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—General Gurney, J. C. Stocker, Esq., Joseph Sims, Esq. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. Richard North, Doctor Glentworth. From Trinity Church, Oxford—Mr. Benjamin Cotman, Mr. Abraham Duffield. From All Saints, Pennepeck—Mr. Jacob Duffield. From St. John's Church, Chester county—Mr. John Chandler. From St. Mary's Church, Chester county—Matthew Kaler, Esq. From St. Gabriel's, Berks county—Mr. Jacob Warner.

The lay delegates produced their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. The convention then adjourned till 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, June 15th, 1808.

The convention met and attended Divine Service performed by the Rev. Mr. Bull, and a sermon by the Rev. Dr. Abercrombie. After the congregation was dismissed, Doctor Glentworth was chosen secretary. The Rev. Joseph Turner, Rector of St. Martin's, Marcus Hook; the Rev. Joseph Hutchins, D. D., the Rev. Mr. Ayres, and Mr. John Matthews, lay delegate from St. Paul's, Philadelphia, took their seats.

Resolved, That the thanks of the convention be presented to the Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, for his sermon delivered this day, and that he be requested to furnish a copy of the same, to be printed.

Resolved, That the secretary be directed to transmit a copy of the Journal of the last general convention to every congregation in this State, and to such as have a clergyman, to request his attention to the 10th canon of this church.

Resolved, That the Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, and the secretary be a committee for revising, correcting, and publishing 250 copies of such of the Journals as have not been heretofore printed.

Resolved, That the Rev. Dr. Blackwell and the secretary be a committee to bring before the next state convention, any subject directed by the late general convention to be laid before them.

The convention then proceeded by ballot to the election of delegates to the general convention, and of a standing committee and council of advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen :

Deputies to the General Convention :

Clerical Deputies.—The Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev.

Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Clarkson.

Lay Deputies.—General Francis Gurney, Joseph Sims, Esq., John Lardner, Esq., Doctor Glentworth. Standing Committee and Council of Advice :

Clerical Members.—The Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Pilmore, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Turner.

Lay Members.—General Francis Gurney, Joseph Sims, Esq., Samuel Wheeler, Esq., Mr. John Matthews, Mr. Thomas Cumpston.

Resolved, That the delegates to the general convention be empowered to fill up any vacancy that may take place among them.

Resolved, That the next convention shall meet at Christ Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the next annual day, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The convention then adjourned.

P. F. GLENTWORTH, *Secretary.*

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**JOURNAL OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH CONVENTION,**

*Held in Christ Church, on Tuesday, May 30th, 1809.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Clergy.*—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., Rev. Joseph Pilmore, D. D., Rev. Joseph Turner, Rev. Joseph Clarkson, Rev. Mr. Wiltbank.

*Laity.*—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Hon. William Tilghman, Peter Browne, Esq. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—Gen. Francis Gurney, John Clement Stocker. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. Richard North, Dr. Glentworth. From Trinity Church, Oxford, Mr. Abraham Duffield. From All Saints, Pennepack—Mr. Jacob Duffield. From St. John's, Chester County—Mr. John Chandler. From St. Martin's, Marcus Hook—Mr. Zachariah Derrick. From St. Gabriel's, Berks county—Mr. Peter Jones. From Chester—Mr. James Withy.

The Rev. Mr. Wiltbank read prayers. The lay delegates present presented their testimonials of appointment, which were read and approved. Mr. James Withy, a member from St. Paul's Church, Chester, attended, but had not a certificate of his appointment. It was therefore Resolved, That Mr. Withy not having any testimonial of his regular appointment, be requested to continue his seat, although he cannot be entitled to a vote. Dr. Glentworth was chosen secretary. The journal of the last convention was read. Dr. Blackwell and Dr. Glentworth, appointed at the last, to bring before this convention any subject directed to be laid before them, by the last general convention, reported the following addition to the eighth article of the constitution of the church :

“No alteration or addition shall be made in the Book of Common Prayer or other Offices of the Church, unless the same shall be proposed in one general convention, and by a resolve thereto, made known to the convention of every Diocese or State, and adopted at the subsequent general convention. The constitution and canons of the church were read agreeably to the direction contained in the forty-sixth canon. The convention then adjourned until to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

*Wednesday, May 31, 1809.*

The convention being assembled, the Rev. Mr. Clarkson read prayers. The Rev. John Andrews, D. D., Joseph Hutchins, D. D., Joseph Sims, Esq.,

and Mr. Leeson Simmons, appeared and took their seats.

The Bishop made the following address, as prescribed by the forty-fifth canon :  
My Reverend Brethren of the Clergy, and my Brethren Lay Deputies of this Convention :

It becomes my duty, in compliance with a canon of the last general convention, to give you information under sundry heads therein specified.

During the past year, I have not visited any congregation of this diocese beyond the bounds of the city, for the performance of the office of confirmation; not having been called on for that purpose, by any of my Reverend Brethren. Within the city, I have confirmed, in the course of the year, forty-one persons; and have lately, in a neighboring district of New Jersey, complied with an invitation to visit three churches—Trinity Church, of Swedesborough, St. George's, of Penn's Neck, and St. John's, of Salem. In the first mentioned, I confirmed two hundred and fifty-one persons; and in the second, which is a new church lately erected to replace an old one, I performed the office of consecration. The third has been so long out of repair, as to induce my preaching in the vicinity; but during my visit, the members came to the resolution of repairing the building. In the course of this visit, I derived much satisfaction from witnessing the greatly increased attention to all the duties of religion throughout the neighborhood, under the ministry of the Rev. Simon Wilmer. There have been ordained by me, the Rev. Daniel Higbee, Deacon; and the Rev. John Jacob Tsheudi, Priest—the former for New Jersey, and the latter for South Carolina. The Rev. James Wiltbank, formerly of Lewistown, in the State of Delaware, has lately complied with an invitation from Trinity Church, Oxford, and from All Saint's, Pennepack; and has settled as the Pastor of these Churches.

It becomes my duty to make known to this convention, that some years ago, the late Mr. Andrew Doz, of this city, devised the greater part of his estate to be divided, after the decease of his then wife and daughter, and applied to seven public uses; among which was a provision for the Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and his successors, who shall have the city of Philadelphia within his diocese. In consequence of the late decease of Mrs. Martha Magaw, daughter of Mr. Doz, the three trustees under the will, of whom I am one, are taking measures for the sale and the distribution of the property: of which two thousand dollars have been paid this morning, and are now ready to be appropriated as a fund for your Bishop, for the time being.

There does not occur to me any other matter to be mentioned, as what may become a ground of a proceeding of this convention; except what has arisen out of an incident, by which I find myself liable to inconveniences of a civil nature; such as may very much interfere with my ecclesiastical duties, both episcopal and parochial. The apprehended evil may perhaps be prevented, by giving greater expedition to any process becoming necessary, on an allegation of any irregularity made cognizable by our canons. This being a matter requiring considerable deliberation, and there not appearing at present the probability of danger from a reasonable delay; the most which I would recommend to this convention, is to put the subject in train for the deliberation of the next.

In this short address, I trust I have answered the purposes for which it has been prescribed. But I

ought not to lose the opportunity of exhorting all the members of this body, to the doing of their endeavors, in their respective stations, for the promoting of the success of religion; and also to the conducting of the business which may come before them: on this occasion, in such a spirit and under such a sense of responsibility to the great Head of the Church, as shall assure the serving of the design on which we are assembled.

My Brethren of the Clergy, in particular, I ought to exhort—considering what is to be said as addressed to my own conscience, as well as to that of every Brother present—to diligence in the discharge of the ministerial duties in our respective spheres. Time is rapidly passing by us: but the instructions and the persuasions which it gives us opportunities of bestowing, may have an influence on the temporal and the eternal happiness, not only of those with whom we have an intercourse, but of persons yet unborn—and doubtless, on such an improvement of our day of usefulness, will depend our own conditions, when that Day shall be for ever closed.

WILLIAM WHITE.

May 31, 1809.

In consequence of the information laid before this convention by the Bishop, of a legacy bequeathed by the late Alexander Doz,

*Resolved*, That the standing committee and council of advice, be authorized to consider of and direct proper measures for the vesting of the said legacy, and for the securing of it in trustees.

As much inconvenience may arise from the delay of presentations between the annual meeting of the convention agreeably to the first canon of 1795—  
*Resolved*, That the Hon. Mr. Tilghman, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, and Joseph Sims, Esq., be a committee to report thereon at the next convention, if they should consider it expedient.

Mr. James Withy, from St. Paul's Church, Chester, informed that it was the wish of that congregation, to be supplied with a minister; and it appeared to be the opinion of Mr. Withy, and the members of the convention, if such a minister could be procured, that the neighboring churches would join in the support of him.

*Therefore Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Vestry of Saint Paul's, and the neighboring churches, to express their desires in writing, with information of what can be done for the support of a minister, and to transmit the same to the Bishop, who with the clergy of the city present, engage to use their best endeavors for the settlement of a minister in the said congregation.

*Whereas*, It has been stated to this convention, that sundry of the clergy and of the laity, have encouraged a periodical work, published in New York, entitled *The Churchman's Magazine*—conceiving the general tendency of it to be the diffusing of correct information concerning the doctrine, the worship, and the discipline of the Episcopal Church,

*Resolved*, That this convention approve of the said encouragement, many of the members having paid attention to the execution of the work, and others being favorably disposed to it from report.

And whereas the reverend editor has offered ten per cent. to the several state conventions, on the proceeds of all the copies sold within their respective bounds; *Resolved*, That this convention are sensible of the liberality of the offer, but decline the acceptance of it, so far as respects themselves, their motive being a reluctance to the existence of such a draw-

back from the proceeds of the publication, as may prevent a sufficient encouragement to the continuance of it.

*Resolved*, That the secretary be desired to furnish the Reverend Editor of the Churchman's Magazine with a copy of the above.

The convention proceeded by ballot to the election of delegates to the general convention, and of the members of the standing committee and council of advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen:

Delegates to the General Convention:

*Clerical*.—Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Clarkson.

*Lay*.—General Gurney, Joseph Sims, Esq., John Lardner, Esq., Dr. Glentworth.

Standing Committee and Council of Advice:

*Clerical Members*.—Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Dr. Andrews, Dr. Pilmore, Dr. Abercrombie, Mr. Turner.

*Lay Members*.—Gen. Gurney, Joseph Sims, Esq., Samuel Wheeler, Esq., Thomas Cumpston, Dr. Glentworth.

*Resolved*, That the delegates to the general convention be empowered to fill up any vacancy that may take place among them.

*Resolved*, That the resolution of the 22d convention directing the annual delivery of a discourse, on the second Wednesday after Whitsunday, be repealed.

*Resolved*, That the convention will meet at Christ Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the next annual day at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The convention then adjourned.

P. F. GLENTWORTH, *Secretary.*

## JOURNAL OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH CONVENTION,

*Held in Christ Church, on Tuesday, 19th June, 1810.*

PRESENT.

*Clergy*.—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Pilmore, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Hutchins, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Turner, the Rev. Slater Clay, the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, the Rev. James Wiltbank, the Rev. Levi Bull.

*Laity*.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Mr. Leeson Simmons. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—Gen. Gurney, J. C. Stocker, Esq. From St. James', Philadelphia—James Milnor, Esq. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Mr. John Matthews, Mr. Richard North. From Trinity Church, Philadelphia County—John Lardner, Esq., Mr. Abraham Duffield. From All Saint's Church, Philadelphia County—William Lardner, Esq., Mr. Jacob Duffield. From St. Martin's Church, Marcus Hook—Mr. Zach. Derrick. From Saint John's Church, Chester County—Mr. M. Peirce, Mr. J. Smith. From Saint Gabriel's Church, Berks County—Mr. Jacob Warren. From St. Mary's, Chester County—Mr. Thomas Bull. From St. John's Church, York County—Mr. Joseph Schall.

The Rev. Mr. Clay read prayers. The lay delegates produced the testimonials of their appointment, which were read and approved. The convention proceeded to the choice of a secretary, when Dr. Glentworth, a lay delegate from St. Paul's Church, was named, but being absent, Mr. John Matthews was appointed secretary, pro tempore.

The Bishop made the following address as prescribed by the forty-fifth canon:

My Reverend Brethren of the Clergy, and my Brethren the Lay Deputies of this Convention:

Agreeably to a practice begun by me at the last annual convention of our church in this State, and founded on a provision of one of the canons of the general convention, I preceede your deliberations by the notice of a few particulars, which the course of my duty furnishes as matter of information. Within the last year, I have visited beyond the bounds of the city, St. James's Church, Lancaster; in which, besides preaching, I confirmed persons; and Trinity Church, Oxford, in which, besides preaching, I confirmed thirteen persons. My confirmations in the city, have been of one hundred and twenty-five persons. On this subject of visitation and confirmation, I wish it to be understood that, however my constant parochial engagements may prevent my travelling to a considerable distance from home, without provision made for the supplying of my place in my churches agreeably to the twentieth canon; yet, in regard to churches within a convenient distance, I am always ready, while my health shall be continued, to comply with any invitation, accompanied with a notification that my presence is desired, with a view to the administering of the rite of confirmation.

The only ordinations performed by me, since the last convention are of the Reverend John Chandler, and of the Reverend Charles Burroughs, to the office of deacons. The former was ordained for New London, in Chester County, but on some domestic considerations, has since removed to the State of Maryland.

Having noticed to the last convention, the legacy of the late Mr. Andrew Doz, and informed them that the sum of two thousand dollars had been recently paid, I think it proper to mention now, that the said sum has been laid out by the council of advice, in a ground-rent, which is vested in trustees, and made payable to the bishop of this church for the time being. The trustees, under the will of Mr. Doz, are proceeding in the sales of different parts of his estate. And it is probable that another sum will be received shortly.

There may be a use in calling into view the very imperfect returns made under the forty-fifth canon of the general convention. Perhaps this body may think it expedient to devise some measure, for the rendering of them more complete in future.

Although it is the object of this short address, to lay before the convention matters on which they are competent to act, yet I trust that it will not be thought unsuitable to the occasion, to conclude with exhorting to a matter which no human authority can reach—the doing of whatever lies on us, in our respective spheres, to extend the influence of vital and practical religion: the clergy, by zeal in their sacred calling, and a punctual attention to its various offices; and both the clerical and the lay members, by the possession of the inward principle of godliness; by a steady, yet unostentatious profession, before the world; and by a suitable life and conversation.

WILLIAM WHITE.

June, 1810.

The Committee appointed at the last convention, to devise a plan for preventing inconveniences that may occur from the delay of presentments, report, that they have not matured the business referred to them.

*Resolved*, That this committee be continued, and

requested to report at the next convention, if they should consider it expedient.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Pilmore, and Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, be a committee to arrange a statement of the number of baptisms, marriages and funerals, and of the number of communicants in the churches represented in this convention for the last two years.

The convention then proceeded by ballot, to the election of delegates to the general convention, and of a standing committee and council of advice, when the following gentlemen were chosen:

Deputies to the General Convention:—

*Clerical Deputies*.—The Revs. Dr. Blaekwell, Dr. Pilmore, Mr. Wiltbank, Mr. Bull.

*Lay Deputies*.—Joseph Sims, Esq., Dr. Glentworth, James Milnor, Esq., William Lardner, Esq.

Standing Committee and Council of Advice:—

*Clerical Deputies*.—Revs. Dr. Blackwell, Dr. Pilmore, Dr. Abercrombie, Dr. Andrews, Mr. Turner.

*Lay Members*.—Gen. Gurney, Joseph Sims, Esq., Samuel Wheeler, Esq., Dr. Glentworth, Thomas Cumpston, Esq.

*Resolved*, That the delegates to the general convention, be empowered to fill up any vacancy that may take place among them.

*Resolved*, That the next convention shall meet at Christ Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the next annual day, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Convention then adjourned.

P. F. GLENTWORTH, *Secretary*.

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JOURNAL OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH CONVENTION,

Held in Christ Church, on Tuesday, June 11th, 1811.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., Robert Blackwell, D. D., Joseph Hutchins, D. D., James Abercrombie, D. D., Joseph Pilmore, D. D., Joseph Turner, Slater Clay, James Wiltbank, Samuel H. Turner, Jackson Kemper.

Lay Delegates.—From Christ Church, Philadelphia.—Mr. Leson Simmons. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia.—General F. Gurney, Mr. Joseph Sims, John C. Stocker, Esq. From St. James's, Philadelphia.—Hon. James Milnor, Thomas M'Euen, Esq. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia.—Dr. Glentworth, Mr. John Matthews, Mr. Richard North. From Trinity Church, Oxford.—Mr. Fox, Mr. John Lardner. From All Saint's, Pequestin.—Mr. William Lardner, Mr. Jacob Duffield. From St. David's, Radnor.—Major William Brooke, Mr. Philip Sheaff. From St. John's, Concord.—Mr. John Pierce. From St. James's, Bristol.—Mr. John M'Elroy.

The convention being assembled, divine service was celebrated by the Rev. Mr. Wiltbank. The lay delegates produced the testimonials of their respective appointments, which were read and approved. The Rev. Jackson Kemper was chosen secretary.

Agreeably to the forty-fifth canon of the general convention, the Bishop delivered the following address:

My Brethren, the Clergy and the Lay Delegates of this Convention :

I meet you with the more satisfaction on this occasion, because of my late return from a general convention of our church; in which its concerns have been transacted with unanimity and brotherly regard.

What renders the late session of that body the more interesting, is its having been the means of adding to the number of our bishops; at a time when from the bodily complaints of the greater number of my Right Rev. Brethren, from the advanced age of all of us, and from the constant uncertainty of human life, there had arisen no small danger of our being without the canonical number required for the consecration of a bishop. In making this communication, it is no small addition to the satisfaction felt, that the most favorable expectations may be founded on the reputation of the two newly consecrated bishops, in their respective dioceses; and on the reputation of one of them among ourselves; to several of whom, and to myself in particular, he has been known from his very early years.

Before the meeting of the late convention, I received some communications relative to our church in the most westerly counties in this State. As the churches in adjoining states were interested in the subject of the communications; it became proper to submit them to the body, representing our communion at large. The consequence of this was, the referring of the case to be considered of and acted on by the Bishops in Pennsylvania and Virginia. As my share in the concern is interesting to our whole church in this state, I have conceived it to be proper to submit the matter to your consideration, and to inform you that the communications referred to are at your command.

I have lately received communications concerning the Episcopal Church in York-Town, and conceive it to be my duty to lay them before the convention. That church was concerned in the earliest measures for the organizing of our communion: but except at the period referred to, and at the last convention they have not had either a clerical or a lay member in this body. Still, there has been no doubt of their considering themselves as belonging to our communion. The convention will consider of the measures to be pursued at the present juncture.

My ordinations in the last year have been of the Rev. Samuel Hulcart Turner of this State, and of the Rev. Jackson Kemper of New York, but since settled in this State, and of the Rev. Charles Blair Snowden, of South Carolina, to the holy office of Deacons; and of the last mentioned, to the holy office of Priests; also to the said office of Priests, of the Rev. Daniel Higbee, of New Jersey, and of the Rev. John Barnwell Campbell, of South Carolina: of whom the former had been ordained Deacon by me in the preceding year, and the latter had received Deacons' orders in England.

My constant course of parochial duty has prevented me from visiting any neighbouring church, destitute of a minister. Could visits of this description be rendered acceptable on week days, it would be much easier to accomplish so desirable an object. The number of persons confirmed by me, all in the city, have been sixty-one.

In my last annual communication, there was held out the expectation of another payment from the estate of the late Mr. Andrew Doz; accordingly it may be proper to mention, that there has been a payment of two thousand dollars; of which thirteen hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents are on a bond secured by mortgage, and the remainder in money. The council of advice have taken measures for the realizing of the latter sum, agreeably to the directions of a former convention.

I have nothing to add but the assurance of my prayers for the blessing of God on your counsels, and your labours for the good of the church.

WILLIAM WHITE.

The journal of the last convention was then read. Dr. Glentworth reported that the deputies to the general convention, agreeably to the power vested in them, had appointed Thomas M'Euen, Esq., and Mr. Ephraim Clark, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Sims and Mr. Lardner; and that the aforesigned persons had attended accordingly. The committee appointed to devise a plan for preventing inconveniences that may occur from the delay of presents, reported a canon, which was unanimously adopted. It being reported that the general convention had referred the business relative to a Bishop for the Western States, and for the parts of the States of Pennsylvania and Virginia, situated beyond the Alleghany Mountains, to the Bishops of Pennsylvania and Virginia:

It was thereupon resolved, that the council of advice be desired to assist the Bishop in the aforesaid business so far as it relates to this State.

The convention having taken into consideration the papers laid before them by the Bishop relative to the church in York-Town:

Resolved, That this business be referred to the council of advice, and that they be and are hereby instructed to take with the concurrence of the Bishop, such measures as they may think proper thereupon.

On motion of the Hon. James Milnor, Resolved, that a committee be appointed to devise a plan for instituting a fund for the support of the Episcopate in this State, and that the said committee report to the next convention.

The Rev. Dr. Andrews, the Rev. Dr. Blackwell, the Hon. James Milnor, and Dr. Glentworth, were appointed the committee for the aforesaid purpose. The clergy were called on for their parochial reports, required by the forty fifth canon of the general convention. The following were presented:

The United Churches of Christ's Church, St. Peter's, and St. James's, the Right Rev. William White, Rector—from the 1st of January, 1810, to the 1st of January, 1811.—Baptisms—males, 124; females, 95; Marriages, 126; Interments—males, 68; females, 58; Communicants, 200.

Return of St. Martin's Church, Marcus Hook, from the Convention of 1810 to the Convention of 1811.—Burials, 6; Baptisms, 8; Marriages, 11, one only of which was performed by me; Communicants, 15.

JOSEPH TURNER.

Return of Trinity Church, Oxford, and All Saint's, Pequestin.—Baptisms, 16; Marriages, 12; Communicants, 35; Funerals, 10. J. WILTBANK.

Return of St. Paul's Church, Philadelphia.—Baptisms, 67; Communicants, 176; Marriages, 46; Burials, 33.

JOSEPH PILMORE, Rector.

The following persons were chosen, by ballot, delegates to the general convention:—Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Pilmore, Rev. Mr. Bull, Rev. Mr. Wiltbank, Dr. Glentworth, Mr. Milnor, Mr. Sims, Mr. William Lardner.

The following persons were chosen, by ballot, members of the standing committee and council of advice:—Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Pilmore, Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Turner,

General Gurney, Mr. Sims, Dr. Glentworth, Mr. Cumpston, Mr. Milnor.

The Convention adjourned.

JACKSON KEMPER, Secretary.

Canon of Presentment adopted 1811.

Presentment may be made for misbehaviour within this Church; not only by the convention and by any vestry, as provided for in the first of the canons passed in 1795; but by any three members of the Church, they pledging themselves to support their charge or charges: Provided, that the presentment and the documents accompanying it be in writing, and be first laid before the Bishop, and by him before the council of advice, with the names of the witnesses and the points to which the proffered testimonies apply; and provided also it be not rejected by the Bishop with the concurrence of the Council, as either futile in itself, or unsupported by the evidence. But the presenters, if trial should proceed, shall be at liberty to bring further evidence.

JOURNAL OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH CONVENTION,

Held in Christ Church, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 26th and 27th days of May, 1812.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. John Andrews, D. D., Robert Blackwell, D. D., Joseph Hutchins, D. D., Joseph Pilmore, D. D., James Abercrombie, D. D., Joseph Turner, Slater Clay, Joseph Clarkson, James Wiltbank, Caleb Hopkins, Levi Bull, John Armstrong, Jackson Kemper.

Lay Delegates.—From St. Paul's, Chester—George B. Lownes, Pierce Crosby. From St. Thomas's, White-Marsh—Christopher Loeser. From St. Gabriel's, Berks—Jacob Warner. From All Saints'—Jacob Duffield, George Breck. From St. John's, Concord—John Pierce. From St. James's, Lancaster—William Hamilton. From Trinity Church, Oxford—Sereek Fox. From St. Mary's, Chester County—Matthew Keller. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Dr. P. F. Glentworth. From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Mr. Morrell, W. Simmons. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—General Gurney, Mr. C. Stocker. From St. James', Philadelphia—Mr. M'Euen, Mr. Markland. From St. James's, Bristol—John M'Elroy, John Harrison.

Tuesday, May 26th.

The convention being assembled, divine service was performed by the Rev. Levi Bull. The Rev. Jackson Kemper was chosen secretary. Agreeably to the forty-fifth canon of the general convention, the Bishop delivered the following address:

My brethren, the clergy and the lay deputies of this convention:

Agreeably to the provisions of the 45th canon of the general convention, I report to you, that since the last meeting of this body, I have visited St. Paul's Church, Chester, St. Martin's, Marcus Hook, and St. James', Bristol: in the last two of which, I administered the ordinance of confirmation. The persons confirmed in the city and in those three churches, are 306.

I have ordained to the holy office of priest, the Rev. John C. Campbell, of the State of South Carolina.

The last convention were informed by me, as their minutes show, that the general convention had referred to the bishops of our church in Pennsylvania and

Virginia, an application relative to the appointment of a bishop for the western states, and for the parts of the two specified states, beyond the Alleghany mountains. After having been engaged in making some previous inquiries, which might aid in coming to a determination on the subject, I received information of the decease of Bishop Madison; which, of course, rendered all further proceeding impracticable for the present. But as it may hereafter be resumed, I submit to this convention the inquiry, how far it may be expedient to declare their consent, in the event of there being consecrated a bishop for one of the western states, that the churches in this state lying beyond the Alleghany mountains, may have the benefit of his superintendance; so far as shall consist with the provisions of the general ecclesiastical constitution, and the act of association of the church in this state.

On the journal of the last convention, there is noticed the complaint of disorder in the church at Yorktown; and the case was referred to the bishop and the council of advice, according to the canons. In consequence, the Rev. Joseph Clarkson was appointed to repair to Yorktown, to make inquiry, and to report as the case might require. We know of some proceedings in this business; but no final report being made, it has not been acted on to effect.

In another case which has been mentioned in this convention—that of complaints from the churches in Northumberland county, the Rev. Levi Bull was appointed to repair to the vicinity, to inquire, and to make report. This service he has performed. So far as one branch of the subject is concerned, it is now matured to be acted on in the way of trial, according to the provisions of the canons. But there is another branch of the subject, in relation to which there is a difficulty not yet removed.

With much satisfaction I inform the convention, that within these few weeks there has been an institution formed in this city, for the advancement of Christianity in this state. The constitution of the society will be laid before you, agreeably to their direction: and I ought not to entertain any doubt that it will receive your approbation and your sanction.

I have nothing further to offer, except to assure my reverend and my lay brethren now assembled, that in carrying into effect the worthy object the last stated, and in all other exertions for the extending of the influence of our Holy Religion, according to the views of it taken in the doctrines, in the worship, and in the discipline of our church, my best services shall not be wanting.

WILLIAM WHITE.

May 26, 1812.

The journal of the last convention was then read.

The convention took up the subject mentioned in the bishop's address, respecting the contemplated appointment of a bishop in one of the western states, so far as the said subject may have a relation to the churches in this state, westward of the Alleghany mountains.

Whereupon resolved, that if a bishop should be consecrated for any state to the westward, and it should be thought expedient that the churches of this state westward of the Alleghany mountains should be under the superintendance of the bishop so contemplated; this convention consent to the same, on such terms as may be approved of by the bishop and the council of advice of this church.

The bishop informed the convention that the Rev. John Armstrong was entitled to a seat in this con-

vention. Mr. Armstrong took his seat accordingly. Dr. Andrews, from the committee appointed to devise a plan for instituting a fund for the support of the episcopate in this state, made the following report, which was considered by sections, and unanimously adopted:

The committee appointed at the last convention of this church, to devise ways and means for the support of the *episcopate* in Pennsylvania, beg leave to lay before you the following plan:

Whereas, it is a general opinion entertained by all true episcopalians, that the apostolic authority of the holy christian ministry, has been handed down by an uninterrupted succession of bishops in the Church of God, it is but reasonable to expect that they should consider it as a duty incumbent on them, to use their best endeavors for the support of it: And whereas, a considerable donation has been left by the late Andrew Doz, Esq., towards a fund for the support of a bishop in the State of Pennsylvania, your committee do therefore propose to the clerical and lay delegates of the said church, here convened, that they should now take order for completing the fund of which he has so generously laid the foundation. Therefore, resolved;

1. That, with the concurrence of the present venerable bishop, it be enjoined as the duty of every settled clergyman of this church, once in every year to preach a sermon on the apostolic succession, or on such other appropriate subject as to him shall seem best adapted to promote the important object in view.

2. That a contribution shall then be made by the congregation, for the sole and express purpose of making provision for supporting the episcopate in this state.

3. That the money so collected shall be forwarded to the treasurer to be appointed by this convention, whose duty shall be to keep a regular account of all the monies received, and to make a report to the annual convention of the church.

4. It shall be the duty of the said treasurer, to consult with the bishop and standing committee of the church, on the best mode of securing and making the *fund* PRODUCTIVE.

5. That not only the money received from the collections after service, but the interest thereof, shall be kept together and made an increasing fund; until in the opinion of a future convention it shall be thought expedient to apply the proceeds thereof to the proposed object.

The following canon was proposed and adopted :

CANON.

Whereas, in the case of trial, consequent on the presentation of a lay member of this church, the lay assessors required by the 4th canon may not conveniently be obtained from the congregation of the accused party consistently with security for impartiality; the bishop, with the consent of the council of advice, if in their judgment the circumstances of the case shall so require, may summon lay assessors from any other congregation or congregations of this church, any thing to the contrary in the 4th canon notwithstanding.

On motion, resolved, that the convention adjourn till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

Wednesday Morning, May 27th, 1812.

The convention having assembled, the Rev. Mr. Wiltbank performed divine service. All the members were present except the Rev. Mr. Clay, Mr. George B. Lownes, and Mr. Christopher Loeser. The minutes of the preceding day were read.

The following letter, with a copy of the address

and constitution, was received from the board of trustees of "The Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church for the advancement of Christianity in Pennsylvania."

Philadelphia, May 26th, 1812.

Respected Sirs,—Pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church, instituted for the advancement of Christianity in Pennsylvania, I am required to lay before your respectable body a copy of the constitution of the society, for your sanction and approbation. Agreeably to which resolution, I now transmit a copy of the constitution, and with the highest regard am, respected Sirs, your obedient servant,

C. N. BANCER, *Recording Secretary.*

To the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Pennsylvania.

The letter and the constitution of the Society having been read, on motion it was unanimously resolved: That this convention have received with much pleasure information of the establishment of the Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church for the advancement of Christianity in Pennsylvania; that they give their unqualified approbation to so laudable an institution; and promise to co-operate with them in promoting their pious and benevolent designs.

It having been stated, that the sum of \$270 or thereabouts, formerly collected for a plan to be therewith instituted for the support of missionaries, and that the same is now in the hands of a gentleman who is ready to pay it as this board should direct:

Resolved, that this convention do hereby resign their right to the said sum, and request that it may be paid to the Treasurer of the Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church for the advancement of Christianity in this State for the use of said society.

On motion it was resolved that the following papers, laid before the convention by the Bishop, be inserted on the journal:

There having been mention made on the journal of the last convention, and also that of the present, of a complaint concerning a disorder said to exist in the church of Yorktown, the Bishop thinks there may be propriety in stating as follows:

The minister of that church, the Rev. John Armstrong, having settled in this state, without a certificate from the bishop of this church in Maryland, which is made necessary by the canons of the general convention, the said Rev. John Armstrong has been considered as not entitled to a seat in this convention: but the bishop now gives information, that the requisite certificate from the bishop of this church in Maryland has been received.

There having been also a presentment of the Rev. John Armstrong for trial, on account of irregularities said to have been committed by him; the bishop also informed the convention, that the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, who was duly appointed a commissary in relation to the said presentment, has reported that the same could not be acted on; because not signed by three members of this church, agreeably to the canons.

Rev. Mr. C's. report, above referred to:

Agreeably to my appointment as commissary in the case of the Rev. John Armstrong, of Yorktown, I repaired to the place on the 27th August last, both parties having been previously noticed of the day, and found the presentment totally informal—two, if not three of the four presenters, not being members of the church. And further, I think from what information I received while in Yorktown, by free, familiar and

impartial intercourse with the members of the congregation generally, that the charges could not be substantiated, so as to bring the Rev. Mr. John Armstrong into any disrepute, more especially, as he is now fully received into the bosom of the church in this state.

JOSEPH CLARKSON.

May 27th, 1812.

On motion of Dr. Andrews, Resolved, that a committee be appointed to arrange the canons, regulations and rules of order which have been made at the different state conventions; to propose such amendments and additions as they may deem expedient, and to report the same at the next convention, with a view of their being inserted, with the act of association, on the journal.

Dr. Andrews and the Secretary were appointed a committee for the aforesaid purpose.

On motion, Resolved, that at the opening of every annual convention a sermon shall be delivered suitable to the occasion by a clergyman appointed previously thereto; and that this duty shall never be omitted except when the bishop shall deliver a charge.

On motion of Mr. Hamilton, Resolved, as the opinion of this convention, that it will not be decorous in any clergyman to have his conventional sermon printed, unless the printing thereof be solicited by two-thirds of the convention before whom such sermon is delivered.

On motion, ordered that the pastoral addresses which shall hereafter be sent from the house of bishops, shall be read to every congregation in this diocese.

Resolved, that the churches in this diocese annually contribute a certain sum for the purpose of defraying such expenses as the convention may incur, and for defraying the expenses of the delegates to the general convention; and that the said sum be raised according to the following ratio: each of the churches in the city of Philadelphia shall contribute twenty dollars; and all the other congregations throughout the diocese, five dollars each, per annum.

Resolved, that a committee be appointed for the purpose of making out an accurate list of all the clergy and congregations in this state; and that the said list be published on the journal of the next convention. Dr. Andrews and the secretary were appointed the committee.

Resolved, that the resolve of this convention made in 1792 be renewed, which required the secretary of the standing committee and council of advice, to lay the minutes of the preceding year's business annually before the convention.

It was ordered that the sermons for the Episcopal Fund, should be delivered between Easter and Whit-sunday. Dr. Glentworth was appointed treasurer to the convention. On motion, it was resolved that the parochial reports shall hereafter be read before the convention.

The Rev. Mr. Bull proposed the following canon, which was adopted:

CANON.

Presentment may be made for misbehaviour, within this church; not only by the convention, and by any vestry, as provided for in the first of the canons passed in 1795; but by any three members of the church, being communicants, they pledging themselves to support the charge or charges by them exhibited: provided that the presentment and documents accompanying it be in writing, and be first laid before the bishop, and by him before the council of advice, with the names of the witnesses, and the points to which

the proffered testimony applies; and provided also it be not rejected by the bishop with the concurrence of the council as either futile in itself, or unsupported by the evidence. But the presenters, if trial should proceed, shall be at liberty to bring further evidence,—and the canon passed in 1811, is hereby repealed.

The Secretary laid before the convention the proposals of Mr. Horwitz for publishing a Hebrew Bible.

The following persons were chosen, by ballot, delegates to the general convention:—Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Pilmore, Rev. Dr. Hutchins, Rev. Mr. Clarkson, Dr. P. F. Glentworth, Mr. Milnor, Mr. M'Euen, Mr. M'Elroy.

The following persons were chosen, by ballot, members of the standing committee and council of advice:—Rev. Dr. Blackwell, Rev. Dr. Andrews, Rev. Dr. Pilmore, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Turner, Gen. Gurney, Dr. Glentworth, Mr. Cumpston, Mr. Milnor, Mr. Sims.

The Convention adjourned.

JACKSON KEMPER, *Secretary.*

Return of the United Churches of Christ Church, St. Peter's and St. James', the Right Rev. William White, Rector—from the 1st of January, 1811, to the 1st of January, 1812.—Baptisms—males, 143; females, 99; Marriages, 96; Burials—males, 82; females, 57; Communicants, 225.

Return from St. Paul's Church, Philadelphia, Rev. Joseph Pilmore, D. D., Rector.—Baptisms, 109; Marriages, 62; Funerals, 44; Communicants, 190.

Return from Trinity Church, Oxford, and All Saints', Lower Dublin, the Rev. James Wiltbank, Rector.—Baptisms, 8; Marriages, 10; Burials, 18; Communicants, 40.

Return from St. Martin's Church, Marcus Hook, by the Rev. Joseph Turner, Rector.—Baptisms—adults, 12; infants, 16; Marriages, 2; Communicants, 19; Burials, 5.

Return from St. Mary's Church, Chester County, by the Rev. Levi Bull, Rector.—Baptisms, 25; Marriages, 9; Burials, not ascertained; Communicants, 76.

Return from St. Gabriel's, Amity Township, Berks County, made by Nicholas Jones, Clerk.—Baptisms, 11; Marriages, 4; Burials, 4; Communicants, 88.

Return from St. John's Church, Yorktown, made by the Rev. John Armstrong, Rector.—Baptisms, 18; Marriages, 20; Communicants, 30.

Return from Christ Church, Derry, Christ Church, Milton, St. Paul's, Bloom, and St. Mark's, Fishing Creek, all in Northumberland County, by the Rev. Caleb Hopkins, Rector.—Baptisms, 199; Communicants, 91;

Return from St. James' Church, Bristol, made by John M'Elroy, Warden.—Communicants, 20; Baptisms, 18.

JOURNAL OF THE TWENTY-NINTH CONVENTION,

Held in Christ Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the fifteenth day of June, 1813.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., Rev. Joseph Hutchins, D. D., Rev. Joseph Pilmore, D. D.; Rev. James Abercrombie, D. D., Rev. Slater Clay, Rev. James Wiltbank, Rev. Levi Bull, Rev. John Armstrong, Rev. John Ward, Rev. Jackson Kemper, deacon, Rev. Richard D. Hall, deacon, Rev. Jehu Curtis Clay, deacon.

Lay Delegates.—From St. David's, Radnor—Philip Sheaff, John Brook. From St. Paul's, Great Valley—Joseph Rowland. St. Paul's, Philadelphia—Dr. Glentworth, Mr. Richard North, Mr. John Claxton. St. James', Perkiomen—Mr. James Bean. All Saints'—William Lardner. Trinity church, Oxford—John Lardner, Sreck Fox. Christ Church, Philadelphia—Mr. Cumpston, Mr. Clark, Mr. Murdock. St. Peter's, Philadelphia—Mr. Gurney, Mr. Stocker, Mr. Smith. St. James', Philadelphia—Mr. M'Euen, Mr. Markland, Mr. Dale. St. Paul's, Chester—Peirce Crosby. St. John's, Concord—Mr. John Pierce. St. John's York—John Schall. St. Mary's, Chester co.—Matthias Keller. St. James', Bristol—John M'Elroy, John Harrison. St. Gabriel's, Berks co.—Mr. Jonathan Jones, Mr. Jacob Warren.

Tuesday, June 15th.

Divine service was performed by the Rev. John Ward. The Rev. Dr. Pilmore preached. When the Convention was organized for business, the Rev. Jackson Kemper was chosen secretary. The Bishop delivered the following address:

My brethren, the clergy, and the lay deputies of this convention:—

Agreeably to the provisions of the 45th canon of the general convention, I report to you, that since the last meeting of this body, I have visited St. Mary's church, Chester; St. John's, York Town; St. James's, Lancaster; St. John's, Pequea, Lancaster co.; Bangor church in the same; and All Saints', Pequestin, and Trinity church, Oxford, both in Philadelphia county. In each of these churches I preached, and administered the rite of confirmation. The numbers confirmed in them respectively, as also the number confirmed in the city, will be subjoined to this address.

I have ordained to the holy office of priests, the Rev. William King, of the state of Virginia; that diocese being at present without a bishop; also to the holy office of deacons, the Rev. Richard Hall, of this state, but having a temporary residence in New Jersey; and the Rev. Jehu Curtis Clay, of this state.

It is satisfactory to me to mention, that since the last convention, the Society for the advancement of Christianity in this state, the organization of which was then communicated, have begun their labors. Most of the vacant churches have been visited under their direction; and from the satisfaction given, we may hope that under the Divine blessing, there will be an increasing usefulness of the institution.

As the minutes of the last convention show, that a complaint had been instituted against the Rev. Caleb Hopkins, it is proper to report that there have been judicial proceedings in relation to the same, agreeably to the canons; that the Bishops and the assessors duly appointed came to a final determination; and that Mr. Hopkins and the vestry of his church have been duly informed of the result.

Agreeably to a measure adopted by the last Convention, sermons have been preached for the creating of an Episcopal fund in the churches within the city, and in other churches within the state. The sum collected amount to seven hundred and seventy-one dollars, sixty-two cents. It remains to give to these, and to future collections, such a direction as to accomplish the intended object. Your present bishop, sensible of the inconvenience to the church, of the union of the charge of the Episcopacy, with that of a parochial cure, but aware that the system must continue during the remainder of his life, distin-

with pleasure the fruits of a design, which contemplates the severance, at some future time, of the two characters sustained by him.

There has lately settled in this state, at Germantown, in the neighborhood of the city, the Rev. John Ward, with the hope of gathering a congregation, and creating a church in that place.

Within the year, there have departed this life, of the clergy within the state, the Rev. Dr. Magaw, formerly rector of St. Paul's church, within the city, the Rev. Dr. Andrews, provost of the University, and the Rev. Thomas Davis, formerly of Fayette county, but recently of Somerset county. In consequence of my long habits of the most friendly intercourse with the two first mentioned of these our departed brethren, with the last of whom especially, I had cultivated an uninterrupted friendship of half a century, their decease has excited the liveliest sensibilities in my mind. My reverend brethren will bear with me while I remind them—and I do not forget that the suggestion should especially apply to myself, as a cotemporary of the reverend brethren removed from us—that the events should excite each of us to the improvement of what may remain of the day of his ministry, in order, that whenever it may terminate, he may finish his course with joy.

WILLIAM WHITE.

CONFIRMATIONS.

At St. Mary's, Chester county, 43; at St. John's, York Town, 71; at St. James', Lancaster, 36; at St. John's, Pequea, Lancaster county, 65; at Bangor church, do., 73; at All Saints, Pequestan, 34; in the city, 259.

Information concerning the property received from the estate of Andrew Doz.—With money reported to be in hand, at the Convention of 1811, there has been purchased a ground rent of 24 dollars per annum. The price paid—336 dollars.

Agreeably to the forty-fifth canon of the general convention, the following reports were read, and ordered to be inserted on the minutes:

Return of the United Churches of Christ Church, St. Peter's and St. James', the Right Rev. William White, D. D., Rector—from the 1st of January 1812, to the 1st of January, 1813.—Baptisms, 204; Burials, 137; Communicants, about 300; Marriages, 66.

Return of St. John's Church, in the Borough of York.—Baptisms, 16; Communicants, 50; Marriages, 10.

JOHN ARMSTRONG, Rector.

Return from Trinity Church, Oxford, and All Saints', Lower Dublin, Philadelphia county.—Baptisms, 40; Marriages, 12; Funerals, 25; Communicants, 45.

JAMES WILTANK, Rector.

Return from St. Gabriel's Church, Amity township, Berks county, Rev. Levi Bull, Rector.—Communicants, 87; Marriages, 3; Baptisms, 14; Burials, 3.

NICHOLAS JONES, Clerk.

Return from the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas', Philadelphia, from the 1st of January, 1812, to the 1st of January, 1813.—Baptisms, 51; Marriages, 74; Communicants, 96; Burials, 41.

ABELOM JONES, Rector.

Return from St. Paul's church, Philadelphia.—Baptisms, 112; Marriages, 80; Communicants, 200; Funerals, 40.

JOSEPH PILMORE, Rector.

Return from St. Mary's Church, East Nantmeal township, Chester county.—Communicants, 85; Baptisms, 30, three of whom were adults; Marriages, 14; Funerals unascertained.

LEVI BULL, Rector.

Return from St. James' Church, Bristol.—Bap-

tisms, adults—12, children, 20; Communicants, 35—deceased, 1; Burials, 35.

RICHARD D. HALL.

Return of St. Martin's Church, Marcus Hook, by the Rev. Joseph Turner, Rector.—Communicants, 21; Baptisms, 6; Burials, 5; Marriages, 3.

The secretary informed the convention, that in consequence of the death of the Rev. Dr. Andrews, the committee appointed to arrange the canons, regulations and rules of order, which have been made at the different state conventions; to propose such amendments and additions as they may deem expedient, and to report the same at this convention with a view of their being inserted, with the act of association, on the journal; and likewise the committee appointed for the purpose of making out an accurate list of all the clergy and congregations in this state; were not ready to report.

Whereupon it was resolved, that the secretary, the Rev. Dr. Pilmore, the Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Gen. Gurney, and Dr. Glentworth be a committee for the purpose of accomplishing the above mentioned business.

A letter was received from the recording secretary of the Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church for the Advancement of Christianity in Pennsylvania, inviting the clerical and lay members of the convention to attend a meeting of the Trustees on this evening, for the purpose of laying before them the proceedings and situation of the society.

On motion it was resolved, that all those members who have it in their power, will attend the said meeting.

Dr. Glentworth, the treasurer of the convention, reported the following receipts:

EPISCOPATE FUND.

May 23d, 1813, St. Paul's, Philadelphia, \$117 00; 24th, Christ Church, do. 154 85; 25th, St. Peter's, do. 144 37; 27th, St. James's, do. 202 66; June 12th, St. James's, Perkiomen, 8 17; do. Trinity, Oxford, 37 90; 15th, St. John's, York, 15 00; St. Gabriel's, Berks, 41 00; St. Mary's, Chester co., 13 50; St. Peter's, Valley, 10 00; All Saints', Pequestan, 27 17. Total, \$771 62.

The following persons were chosen, by ballot, delegates to the General Convention:—Rev. Mr. Wiltbank, Rev. Mr. Bult, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Dr. Pilmore, Gen. Gurney, Mr. M'Euen, Mr. M'Elroy, Mr. Warren.

The following persons were chosen, by ballot, members of the standing committee and council of advice:—Rev. Dr. Hutchins, Rev. Dr. Pilmore, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Mr. Turner, Rev. Mr. Kemper, Gen. Gurney, Dr. Glentworth, Mr. M'Euen, Mr. Cumpston, Mr. Sims.

On motion it was resolved, that the delegates have power to supply any vacancy that may occur among them.

It was resolved that the next meeting of the convention shall be held in St. Jaines' church Philadelphia. Adjourned.

JACKSON KEMPER, Secretary.

~~~~~ JOURNAL OF THE THIRTIETH CONVENTION,

Held in St. James's Church, Philadelphia, on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 7th and 8th, 1814.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Clergy.—The Right Rev. William White, D. D., the Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D., the Rev. Joseph

Hutchins, D. D., the Rev. James Abercrombie, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Pilmore, D. D., the Rev. Frederick Beasley, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Turner, the Rev. Jas. Wiltbank, the Rev. Levi Bull, the Rev. Jackson Kemper, the Rev. Richard D. Hall, the Rev. Jehu Curtis Clay.

Lay Delegates.—From St. David's, Radnor—Philip Sheaff, William Brooke. From St. Gabriel's, Berks co.—George Douglass. From Christ Church, Philadelphia—Thomas Cumpston, Wm. Murdock. From St. Peter's, Philadelphia—Francis Gurney, John B. Wallace, Daniel Smith. From St. James', Philadelphia—Thos. M'Euen, John Markland, Richard Dale. From St. Mary's, Chester County—Matthias Keller, John Jones. From St. James's, Perkiomen—Jesse Bean. From St. Peter's, Great Valley, Chester co.—John Ralston. From St. James', Bristol—John McElroy, John Harrison, Robert Cabeen, Joseph King. From Trinity Church, Oxford—John Lardner, Sereck Fox. From All Saints', Lower Dublin—Jacob Duffield, George Breck. From St. Paul's, Philadelphia—John Claxton, P. F. Glentworth, Walter Kerr.

Tuesday, June 7, 1814, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Convention was opened with divine service.—The Rev. Dr. Abercrombie read prayer. The Rev. Mr. Wiltbank preached.

After divine service the following clergymen appeared and took their seats. The Right Rev. Bishop White, Dr. Blackwell, Dr. Pilmore, Dr. Abercrombie, Dr. Beasley, Mr. Turner, Mr. Wiltbank, Mr. Kemper, Mr. Hall and Mr. Jehu C. Clay.

The following lay delegates presented testimonials of their appointment, and were admitted to seats:—Matthias Keller, John Jones, John Ralston, John McElroy, John Harrison, Robert Cabeen, Joseph King, Jesse Bean, Philip Sheaff, William Brooke, John Lardner, Sereck Fox, Jacob Duffield, George Breck, T. Cumpston, Wm. Murdock, F. Gurney, J. B. Wallace, D. Smith, Thomas M'Euen, John Markland, Richard Dale, John Claxton, P. F. Glentworth, and Walter Kerr.

The Rev. Jackson Kemper was chosen secretary.

Agreeably to the 45th canon of the general convention, the Bishop delivered the following address:

My brethren, the clergy and the lay deputies of this Convention :

In pursuance of my plan of annual communication, adopted in compliance with the forty-fifth canon of the general convention, it lies on me to inform you, that within the last year, I visited St. James' Church, Perkiomen; St. Gabriel's, Morlattan; and St. James', Bristol. In each of these, I preached and confirmed; and in the last of them I administered the Holy Communion: the minister of that church being in Deacon's orders only. The number of persons confirmed in each of the said Churches, as also the number confirmed in the city, will be presented by me to be recorded on your journal.

There have been ordained by me to the holy office of deacons, Jehu Curtis Clay, son of the Rev. Slater Clay; and to the holy office of priests, the Rev. Jackson Kemper, and the Rev. Richard Hall—all of this diocese: and, with the consent of Bishop Clagget, the Rev. Samuel H. Turner, of the diocese of Maryland.

The Rev. Richard Hall has taken the charge of St. James' Church, Bristol.

In the course of the last summer, another visit was made to most of the vacant churches in the State, under the direction of the Society for the Advancement of

Christianity. They have also published and dispersed several valuable tracts; and have purchased and distributed some books of Common Prayer; and sold many copies of it at a reduced price.

In the General Convention lately held in this city, besides many provisions tending to the due ordering of our ecclesiastical concerns—among which, as we trust, is the consecration of the Rev. Richard Channing Moore, D. D., late of the city of New York, for the diocese of Virginia. There is a measure, which it rests on me to state to you on this occasion. I allude to a recommendation which the Convention have issued, for the introducing of the custom of standing, during the singing of any portions of the Psalms and Hymns in metre. It is to be hoped that the recommended posture will be perceived to be better suited than that of sitting, to the act of adoration. The bishops, when they proposed this measure, were aware that much allowance is to be made for the practice heretofore prevailing; which, until within these few years, was universal throughout America, and as far as my personal knowledge extends, in England also.* This did not hinder us from yielding to a sense of duty, in proposing the change of custom which has been suggested. And the proposal having been sanctioned by the house of Clerical and Lay Deputies, I trust, that it will be acceptable to all orders of persons in this diocese; and that the clergy in particular will take effective measures for the carrying of the recommendation into effect—still with the reservation therein contemplated, of some delay where circumstances may render it expedient. For it is my desire, that the discretion vested in the Bishop, may be considered as extending to every parochial clergyman—the same reason applying: which is, "the giving of time and opportunity of explaining satisfactorily the grounds of the measure."

There are two other measures of the General Convention, which I shall request the Secretary to read to you, with the view of their being entered on the Journal. They relate to subjects which have been committed to the ecclesiastical authorities in the respective dioceses, for the acquiring of information and advice thereon. Any useful suggestions which may be made to me on these subjects, shall be carefully noted, to be submitted to the next General Convention.

Thirty years are now passed since the organization of our communion in this State and throughout the Union was begun in this city. It has been my lot, to take a share in all the counsels, as well of the General Conventions, as of those which have been held for this Diocese in particular. So long as health and strength and mental ability may permit, I shall esteem no labor too great for the perpetuating and the improving of what I have seen auspiciously begun and prosperously conducted. The point to which I apply the retrospect, is the calling on my brethren of this Convention, and the clerical part of it especially, to bestow their best endeavors in the same sacred cause; and constantly to put up their prayers for the divine blessing on the work.

WILLIAM WHITE.

Confirmations during 1813.—In the city, 275; All Saints, Lower Dublin, 33; St. James', Perkiomen, 49; St. Gabriel's, Moralattan, 35; St. James', Bristol, 43; St. Mary's, Burlington, N. J., 30.

* Until of late years, if it existed in England, it must have been partial. It certainly did not extend to the metropolis; into which, however, it is said to have been introduced.

The committee on the Canons, Regulations, &c., informed the convention that they would report to-morrow.

The Bishop read two resolutions which he intended to submit to the consideration of the convention to-morrow.

The following parochial reports were read:

Report of the united Churches of Christ Church, St. Peter's Church, and St. James' Church, Philadelphia.—Baptisms, 269; Burials, 145; Communicants, about 300; Marriages, 52. Wm. White, Rector.

The annual account of the Parish of St. Paul's, Philadelphia.—Baptisms, 96; Communicants, 210; Marriages, 81; Funerals, 44.

JOSEPH PILMORE, Rector.

Report from the Parish and Church of St. James', the Greater, Bristol, from Convention of 1813 to Convention of 1814, by the Rev. Richard D. Hall.—Baptisms, adults, 50, and children 43, total 93; Communicants removed 1, added 55, total 90; Marriages, 5; Burials, 32.

Agreeably to the spirit of the forty-fifth canon of the general convention, and the custom of Churches in other States, it is further reported, that the congregation of St. James', Bristol, consists of about eighty families and contributors.* The number increasing, as also the demand for pews; some alterations will probably be made in the building through the course of this summer. The present appearances of piety and increasing zeal and attention in the service of the Sanctuary: the fervor and devotion with which our Apostolical Liturgy is performed: the remarkable changes which have, by Divine Grace, been effected in the hearts and lives of many, afford a prospect the most pleasing, that this part of the Episcopal Vineyard will flourish more and more "as a field which the Lord hath blessed."

Return from Trinity and All Saints.—Baptisms 50; Marriages, 10; Communicants, 50; Funerals, 15.

J. WILTBANK, Rector.

Report of St. Martin's, Marcus Hook.—Communicants, 20; Baptisms, 7; Funerals, 0; Marriages, 3.

JOSEPH TURNER, Rector.

The Rev. Levi Bull appeared and took his seat.

The Rev. Mr. Hall proposed the following resolution which was agreed to by the convention:

Resolved, That for the information of the Churches in this Diocese, a full statement of the funds for the support of the Episcopate in this State be inserted on the journal of this convention.

Dr. Glentworth, the Treasurer of the convention, made a report.

The Rev. Mr. Bull read the parochial reports of his two Churches. St. Mary's Church.—Communicants, about 90; Baptisms, infants 25, adults 12; Marriages, 12; Funerals, unascertained.

LEVI BULL, Rector.

St. Gabriel's Church.—Communicants, 101; Marriages, 5; Baptisms, 23; Burials, 4.

Taken from the register by

NICHOLAS JONES, Clerk.

Mr. Douglas, a delegate from St. Gabriel's, appeared and took his seat.

The members of the convention were invited to attend a meeting of "The Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church, for the advancement of Christianity

in Pennsylvania," to be held this afternoon in St. James'.

The convention adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Wednesday, 9 o'clock, A. M., June 8th, 1814.

The Rev. Mr. Hall read prayers. The convention proceeded to business.

Present—Clergy, the Bishop, Dr. Pilmore, Dr. Abercrombie, Mr. Kemper and Mr. Hall. Lay Delegates, Matthias Keller, John Jones, John Ralston, John McElroy, John Garrison, Joseph King, Jesse Bean, Wm. Brook, John Lardner, Sereck Fox, Jacob Duffield, George Breck, Thomas Cumpston, Wm. Murdock, F. Gurney, J. B. Wallace, John Markland, Richard Dale, P. F. Glentworth, Walter Kerr and Geo. Douglas.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

The following extracts from the minutes of the general convention of 1814, were read at the request of the Bishop, and ordered by the convention to be inscribed on the Journals.

"Whereas, a diversity of custom has of late years prevailed in the posture of ministers and of the people, during the act of singing the Psalms and Hymns in metre; the former practice of sitting during this part of the service, gradually giving way to the more comely posture of standing; it is hereby recommended by this convention, that it be considered as the duty of the ministers of this Church, to encourage the use of the latter posture, and to induce the members of their congregations, as circumstances may permit, to do the same: allowance to be made for cases in which it may be considered inconvenient by age, or by infirmity. Practice under this recommendation, is to begin from the time when suitable information shall have been given by the clergy, to their respective flocks. And it shall be the duty of every minister to give notice of this recommendation to his congregation, at such times as in his discretion may be the most proper.

"The carrying into effect the contemplated change may be delayed by the Bishop of any diocese, or, where there is no Bishop, by the ecclesiastical authority therein, until there shall have been time and opportunity of explaining satisfactorily the grounds of the measure."

(A true copy.)

JACKSON KEMPER,
Secretary to the House of Bishops.

Resolved, That it be referred to the Bishops; and, in those Dioceses in which there are no Bishops, to the standing committees therein, to inquire in the respective dioceses or States, and to consider for themselves, concerning the expediency of establishing a Theological Seminary, to be conducted under the general authority of this Church; and to report to the next general Convention."

(A true copy.)

JACKSON KEMPER,
Secretary to the House of Bishops.

The Bishop declared himself ready to receive at this or any future State Convention, opinions relative to a Theological Seminary, to be conducted on the plan mentioned in the above resolution.

The following gentlemen appeared and took their seats:—Mr. Daniel Smith, Rev. Dr. Beasley, Rev. Mr. Wiltbank, Rev. Mr. Turner, Rev. Jehu C. Clay, and Mr. John Claxton.

Leave of absence was granted to Mr. McEuen, for the remainder of the session.

The Rev. Mr. Kemper, chairman of the committee on canons, &c., made the following report:

* The number of families has greatly increased since the Church has been revived.

The committee appointed by the convention of 1812, and continued by the convention of 1813, on the Canons, and on the Regulations and Rules of Order, and authorized to propose additions and amendments on those subjects, report :

1st. That under the general name of "The Canons of 1795," there be printed the seven canons passed in that year, as they stand on the journal of the same; that under the name of "The Canon of 1796," there be printed the canon on the journal of that year; that under the name of "The Canon of 1797," there be printed the title in italics of the canon of the journal of that year, with a note intimating that it is now superseded by the canons of the general convention; that under the name of "A Canon of 1811," there be printed the title—"A Canon concerning Presentments," in italics, with a note, intimating that it has been repealed; and that under the name of "The Canons of 1812," there be printed the two Canons at length, as they stand on the journal; the first under the title of "A Canon concerning Lay Assessors," and the second under the following title : "A Canon concerning Presentments." The instrument thus drawn up, is proposed by the committee to be added to the present journal, in an appendix, headed in the first place by the "Act of Association," with its "Supplement," and in the second place, by the plan of a proposed constitution which the committee recommend, should be adopted by the Convention.

Secondly, that in the said appendix, there be also inserted under the head of "Regulations, &c., adopted by the convention at various sittings, and revised and confirmed by the convention of 1814 :" the regulations, which have been principally taken from the journals: and it is proposed by the committee, that all other resolves, &c., not included in the list, but which are to be found on the journals of the convocations of this Church, prior to 1814, be hereby repealed.

Thirdly, in reference to the rules of order, it is hereby proposed that the twelve rules be adopted as the rules of order of this convention, and be printed in the aforesaid appendix.

After due consideration the report was agreed to, and the act of association with its supplement, the Canons, the Constitution, the Regulations, &c., were ordered to be inserted on the journal in an appendix.

The committee likewise reported an accurate list of the clergy and congregations, which was ordered to be inserted in the appendix.

The following extract from the journal of the general convention of 1814, concerning a copy-right for the book of Common Prayer, was ordered to be inserted on the journal.

"The joint committee of the two houses, on the question of a copy-right for the book of Common Prayer, respectfully report as follows:

"They are informed, on credible authority, that the same object was contemplated in the year 1789, on the editing of the book, as it is now established by the authority of this Church; but was relinquished, in consequence of perceiving, that complaints were likely to arise from the apprehension, that the price would be thereby enhanced. The objection was, that an appropriation of the proceeds to a purpose both religious and charitable, would not reconcile the members of this church to a tax, which it was alleged was thus imposed; the book being of a character, which it was a duty to possess. Whether the objection may not be guarded against by a contract in which the prices of books should be fixed, agreeably to

their different sizes; and whether in this case, there ought to be disregarded the complaints which would still be made of an alleged unreasonableness of price, the committee submit to the consideration of the convention.

"The committee are not sufficiently informed of the operation of law, on the present subject, so as to judge of the practicability of the measure proposed; nor have they had either time or the authority of the convention, to take advice thereon. But they propose that law advice should be taken, before further progress.

"Further, it has not occurred to the committee, how the copy-right may be so contrived as to be made consistent with the eighth article of the Ecclesiastical Constitution. That some alteration must be made in the present book, to bring it under the exclusive claim of a copy-right is evident. If the alteration should affect the book, as described by its known name, the difficulty here noticed must present itself. But if the alteration should be made in any of the instruments of this Church, which are usually bound up with the Book of Common Prayer, it would seem that the latter might be still published, without legal interference.

"On the ground of the premises, the joint committee propose to the two houses as follows :

Resolved, That it be referred to the Bishops, to consider of the propriety of granting a copy-right in the book of Common Prayer; to inquire in their respective dioceses, and elsewhere as circumstances may permit, whether the said measure can be adopted consistently with the law and the approbation of the conventions in the different dioceses, and to report to the next general convention."

(A true copy.)

JACKSON KEMPER,

Secretary to the House of Bishops.

On motion, *Resolved*, That whereas it is determined by the constitution of the church in this diocese, that the day of annual convention may be appointed by that body from time to time; and whereas, since the change of the day of the general convention, the distance of the same from the immediate precedent convention of the diocese is inconveniently great; the annual day of the latter convention shall be from this time, the first Tuesday in May, in every year: on which day no other business shall be transacted than the organizing of the body; so as that they may be ready for further transaction on the day succeeding; on the morning of which succeeding day, there shall be the service and sermon.

It was moved and seconded, that this convention reconsider the order of the convention of 1812, providing for the reading of the pastoral letters of the bishops, in the several congregations of the diocese.

The said order having been reconsidered, *Resolved*, That it be now revoked; and that instead thereof, it shall be the duty of the secretary of this convention, on the printing of any pastoral letter of the Bishops in general convention, to send a copy thereof to every clergyman in the diocese; and as many copies as the number in possession may afford, to the church wardens of every congregation within the same: such copies to be for the perusal of the members of the respective congregations, under such reasonable regulations as circumstances may dictate.

Resolved further, That the same order be taken, in relation to the two pastoral letters already printed, so far as copies can be procured.

Moreover, if any parochial minister should deem it to be expedient to read the pastoral letter to his con-

gregation, the same may be done by him at such time as shall be judged the most expedient.

Dr. Glentworth was re-appointed treasurer of the convention.

The minutes of the standing committee and council of advice were read.

The following persons were appointed deputies to the general convention:

Clergy.—Rev. Dr. Pilmore, Rev. Dr. Abercrombie, Rev. Dr. Beasley, Rev. Mr. Kemper.

Laity.—Thos. M'Euen, Esq., Dr. Glentworth, John M'Elroy, Esq., Richard Dale, Esq.

The following persons were elected members of the standing committee and council of advice, until the next annual convention.

Clergy.—Dr. Pilmore, Dr. Abercrombie, Dr. Beasley, Mr. Turner, Mr. Kemper.

Laity.—Thomas M'Euen, Esq., Dr. Glentworth, Thomas Cumpston, Esq., John B. Wallace, Esq., Richard Dale, Esq.

The convention adjourned to meet on the first Tuesday in May next, at 5 o'clock, P. M., in St. James' Church, Philadelphia.

JACKSON KEMPER, *Secretary.*